

THE CHART

Volume No. 59, Issue No. 21 • Missouri Southern State College, Joplin, Mo. 64801-1595

Friday, April 16, 1999

INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES



Missouri Southern's softball team moved to the 500 mark with a sweep of Southwest Baptist University on Tuesday.... Sports Scene, Page 14

Arias advocates demilitarization

Peace Prize winner says best defense is to be defenseless

By JEFF WELLS
MANAGING EDITOR

Dr. Oscar Arias, former president of Costa Rica and Nobel laureate, declared militarism the enemy of human welfare and progress in his speech Monday night at Missouri Southern.

Arias was the featured speaker at the 1999 Harry and Berniece Gockel International Symposium. The topic of the symposium was "Latin America: Peace, Human Progress and New Challenges for the 21st Century."

Arias was the president of Costa Rica from 1986 to 1990. The decade preced-

ing his term was characterized by turmoil in neighboring countries. After taking office, Arias promoted his Arias Plan for Peace. All Central American presidents signed the accord on Aug. 7, 1987.

Arias was awarded the 1987 Nobel Peace Prize. He used the monetary award to establish the Arias Foundation for Peace and Human Progress.

"The best way to perpetuate poverty is to spend [money] on arms," said Arias to a class of Southern students before his speech.

Costa Rica dissolved its armed forces in 1948, neighboring Panama recently demilitarized, and a similar plan is under way in Haiti.

"The abolition of armed forces is a viable option for many countries," Arias said.

He told the class Costa Rica was secure because the world would be outraged if it were attacked.

"Our main defense is that we are defenseless," he said.

Panama recently followed Costa Rica's example, and demilitarization plans are progressing in Haiti.

"I'm proud that the number of armed conflicts in South America have decreased and Central America has entered into a new era in peace," he said.

Arias criticized the sale of arms by the United States to developing countries. He said military spending in impoverished countries prohibits governments from providing basic human needs such as food and education.

Arias compared the morality of arms sales to drug sales.

"If we are frightened by drug sales, we should be frightened by arms sales," he said.

Arias is active in a commission of Nobel peace laureates promoting an

International Code of Conduct on Arms Sales. The code would prohibit the sale of arms to aggressor nations in conflicts.

"Politics go hand in hand with morality and responsibility," he said.

Arias hopes the leaders of the industrialized nations will forgive the foreign debt of developing countries that choose to demilitarize.

In a question and answer session following his speech, Arias criticized American policy toward Kosovo.

"He gave a lot of negative American overtones, and I didn't care for his suggestions about action against [Serbian President Slobodan] Milosevic," said Kristen Bridges, junior biology pre-medical major.

Bridges did not like Arias' suggestion that Milosevic should be able to choose



NOPPADOL PAOTHONG/The Chart
Oscar Arias speaks in Webster Auditorium, Monday.

TURN TO GOCKEL, PAGE 9

BLOCK CLASSES

Languages offer new program

By MARLA HINKLE
CITY NEWS EDITOR

Freshmen entering Missouri Southern this fall will have the opportunity to travel to Mexico and Canada over spring break as part of two new "block" classes.

Seven "blocks," in which three separate courses are linked together, are on the schedule. A student enrolling in a block must sign up for all three courses. The students enrolled in a block will spend most of the semester together, as a group.

"I think the freshmen block classes allow students to form learning communities and also to forge friendships with other students enrolled in their classes," said College President Julio Leon. "It's a great way for freshmen to be successful in college."

According to Leon, students enrolled in the Spanish class will have the opportunity to travel to Mexico and spend 10 days there during spring break. Those enrolled in French will travel to Canada in the spring of 2000 and stay in Quebec 10 days and interact with students at the University of Quebec.

"Not only does this help enhance our international mission, but allows students to understand the importance of traveling abroad and learning about other languages and cultures," Leon said. "Once students are actually in a foreign country, they will understand why it is so vital to learn the language."

Dr. Betsy Griffin, head of the psychology department and co-director of the center for teaching and learning, says the first four blocks are not new to the program but the remaining three incorporate some new classes for freshmen. Beginning Spanish I will be offered in block five, and Beginning French I will be offered in block six.

"This opportunity for travel has never been offered to freshmen before, so I think this will be a good opportunity for students to start



NOPPADOL PAOTHONG/The Chart

Denna Agee, junior criminal justice major, practices her punch Wednesday. She drives to Nevada four times a week to practice the sport, which she has been participating in for about eight months.

Agee steps into male-dominated sport

By JEFF WELLS
MANAGING EDITOR

Four times a week, Denna Agee, junior criminal justice major, drives an hour to Nevada to pick a fight.

Agee climbs the steps to the Nevada Boxing Club, changes clothes, attacks a punching bag, or skips a jump rope before climbing into the ring with a sparing partner.

She has been boxing for eight months.

"My brother was boxing and I just tagged along," she said. "He quit after about three months, but I was addicted."

Student LifeBeat



These special feature stories are designed specifically for you—the student. If you have any suggestions please call 625-9311.

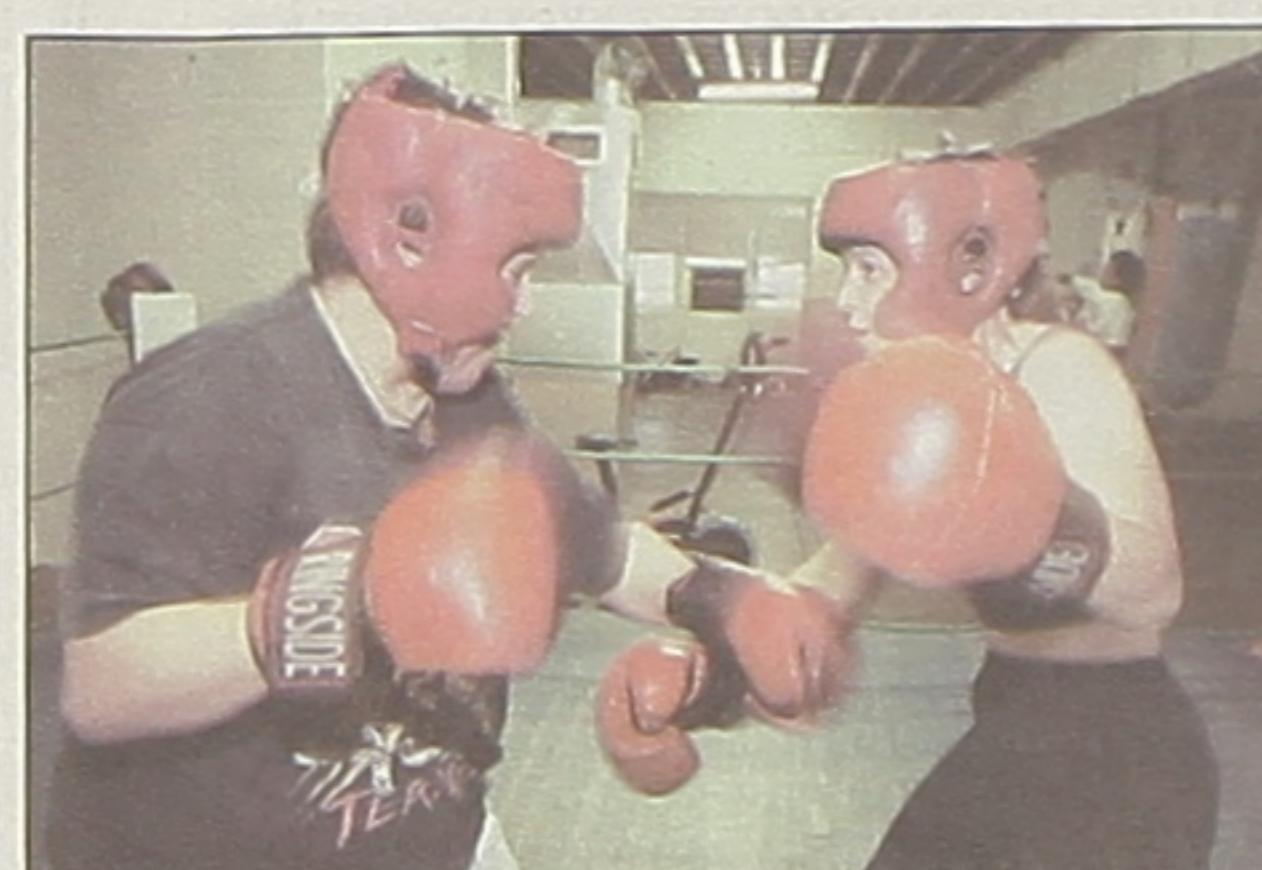
Agee's record is 3-5. However, she has been competing since she first picked up the sport.

"That's part of the reason my record is

so bad," she said. "I started early."

Wayne Neal, Agee's coach,

TURN TO BOXING, PAGE 9



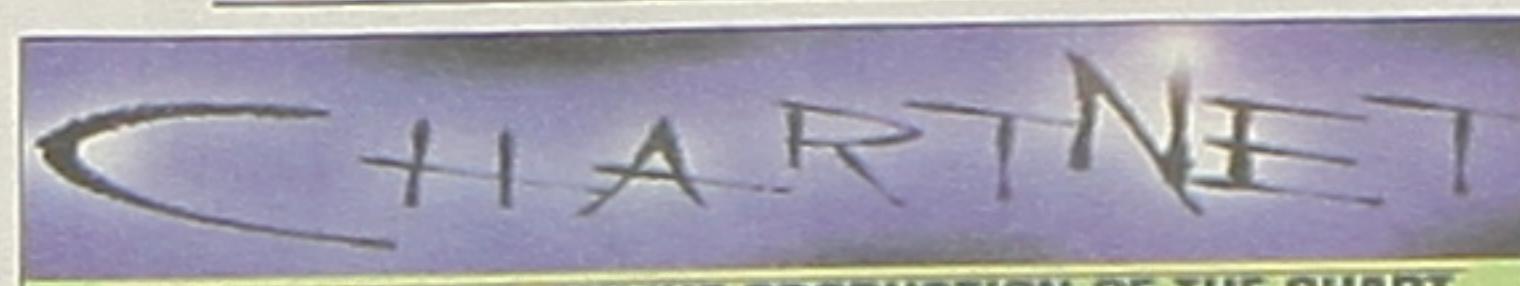
NOPPADOL PAOTHONG/The Chart
Agee spars with Camille Hass, 13, while practicing on Wednesday.

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Office:

Editor: 625-9790

Advertising: 625-9789

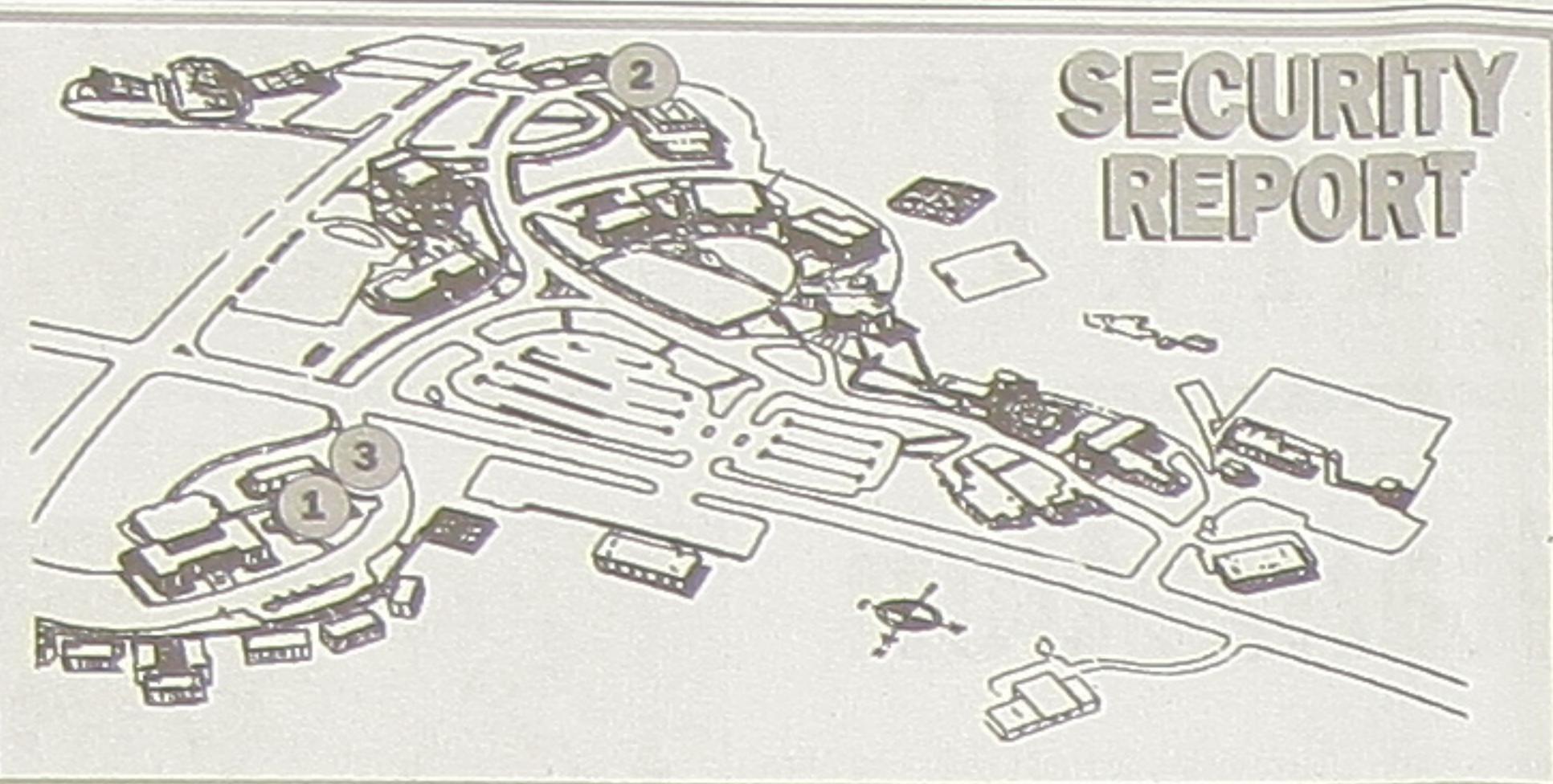
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Arts Showcase:

Mike Rodgers displays his poetic prowess at a Sigma Tau Delta poetry reading Wednesday.....page 7



What's Inside



- 1** 4/7/99 Lot #23 12:05 p.m. Jade R. Smith reported she had parked her white 1988 Dodge Omni in the fifth space north of Newman Road at 10 p.m. on 4/5/99. She said that at 3 p.m. the next day she discovered someone had put a scratch on the right side of her car. The scratch appeared to have been caused by a sharp metal instrument.
- 2** 4/9/99 Lot #12 2:05 p.m. Bob Beeler, director of the physical plant, had advised the security officer that his College vehicle had been struck by a construction vehicle while checking on the progress of the new fieldhouse. The driver of the dynalift said he did not see the vehicle until contact was made. The mirror on the passenger side of Beeler's vehicle was damaged along with the door.
- 3** 4/13/99 Lot #23 10:56 a.m. Sue Carr reported damage to her 1991 Chevy Cavalier. The damage was to the left front, rear, and driver's door and consisted of a scratch the length of these areas. There are no suspects at the time.

All proceeds of all advertising go to The Chart, the student newspaper of Missouri Southern State College.

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STUDENT SERVICES

Group works past problems

Program schedules campus meetings

BY ELIZABETH SCHURMAN
ASSISTANT EDITOR

A new support group for students with drinking problems has become available at Missouri Southern.

Don Earles, junior psychology major, began the Alcoholics Anonymous group after realizing

there was a need for it while instructing College Orientation.

"I became interested in starting a support group after teaching material in Orientation about alcohol awareness," he said. "It was my starting point for getting the group going."

The need for an AA group on campus has been in existence for a while. About 10 years ago, Southern had a Narcotics Anonymous/AA group, but it died out after the organizer graduated and people lost interest.

"We have had a lot of inquiries



Susan Craig
Counselor and Coordinator of College Orientation

into a group like this on campus," said Val Carlisle, coordinator of student activities. "It seems to be something, unfortunately, that is much needed and valuable here."

The meetings are open to anyone affected by alcohol or any other type of drug. Earles would like to see anyone with any type of problem needing peer counseling to attend.

"I am really open as to how the students want the meetings to run," he said. "Anybody with any problem is welcome. It can be a counseling session where we can deal with as many types of problems as possible."

The AA group is registered through Southern only as a support group and does not receive any funding from the Student Senate. One reason the group isn't registered as a club is so that it may stay anonymous.

"There are no check-ins, registrations, or anything," Earles said. "It is all anonymous."

Because the group is situated on campus, more students will have availability to the meetings and quite possibly feel more comfortable to attend.

"Having an AA group on campus is long overdue," said Susan Craig, counselor and coordinator of College Orientation. "I have talked with students with these same types of problems, and they aren't able to leave the campus to go to a meeting, and they don't want to."

66

I will just get a feel for what the people at these meetings would like to do at them.

Don Earles
Junior Psychology Major

99

participate in local groups in the city because they don't feel comfortable."

The AA group meetings are held every Thursday at 2:30 p.m. in Billings Student Center Room 311. Earles would like the group to continue through the summer if the group is interested.

"I will just get a feel for what the people at these meetings would like to do at them," Earles said.

He wants to start a hotline on Friday and Saturday nights for people with problems. The idea is still in the works.

"It makes it harder for someone to have a problem like this and not be able to talk to anyone about it," Earles said. □

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Friday, April 16, 1999

STUDENT SENATE

Page 3

Vote dooms Spring Fling Casino Night

Nearly half of legislature absent from meeting

By ERIN SELLERS

CAMPUS EDITOR

The Student Senate president summed up this week's Senate meeting with his statement, "Old business: there is none; new business: there is none."

The Senate had to start the meeting late due to the fact the meeting was on hold for attendance. The policy is that at least half the senators must be present for a meeting to be

held. After a few minutes of waiting, senators No. 19 and 20 arrived.

The half not present at the meeting included Nicole Hollenberg, secretary, and Tom Williams, vice president.

Casino Night, after some discussion, was voted out of the lineup for Spring Fling.

"Lots of people want it, but no one wants to work it," said Jesse DeGonia, president.

Junior senator Patty Richardson suggested the possibility of the Campus Activities Board taking over Casino Night.

"If we don't have it, Spring Fling is not going to be Spring Fling," Richardson said.

In the end, Ron Mitchell, assistant adviser

to the Senate, pointed out that Casino Night is not a requirement for the Senate.

"It was something that was brought up two years ago and they decided to do it," Mitchell said.

The final vote was 18-2 against having Casino Night.

Petitions for those senators wanting to run for an officer position are due at 5 p.m. today in the student services office.

Mitchell was disappointed in the low number of petitions that were picked up.

"It was a pretty poor turnout," he said. "You guys are supposed to be the leaders. Don't be afraid if you are running opposed. If you

don't win, you're automatically on the ballot for next year."

Jason Kiefer, junior senator, discussed the Senate's lack of volunteering for Tuesday's Coke wagon.

"I was surprised with the turnout," he said. "Those that signed up and didn't show — you're on my bad list."

Parliamentarian Sandy Fisk talked about the progress in the "Month of Caring" project. She said although most of the projects are taken, it is not too late for interested organizations to participate.

The final diversification meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Applebee's. □

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

Program promotes languages

By JEFF BILLINGTON

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Fear of a wounded GPA is no longer an excuse for students not taking a foreign language.

Dr. Erik Bitterbaum, vice president for academic affairs, said the idea for a new venture to encourage interest in foreign languages started last fall.

"[College President] Dr. [Julio] Leon and I attended a Spanish class," he said. "When the class was over, the president turned to the class and asked them 'How could we encourage more students to take a foreign language at Missouri Southern?'

"One of the suggestions made by a number of students was to offer foreign language on a credit, no credit basis," he said. "They felt it would get even more students to take it, because they wouldn't have to be as concerned about their grade because many students try to protect their GPA. It was a very interesting suggestion."

Bitterbaum said the foreign language faculty then was asked about the idea.

"They came up with a proposal," he said. "They were excited by the idea."

Pedro Talavera, assistant professor of Academic Affairs Spanish, said the department hopes it will result in an enrollment increase.

"Without the fight over grades, we hope it will boost enrollment," Talavera said. "That is the basic rationale behind it."

Bitterbaum said this is not a permanent decision for Southern.

"It's a pilot, to evaluate how successful we are," he said. "Students can take the 100 to 200 series on a credit, no credit basis. They have to check with their adviser and only take one course per semester in credit, no credit."

Students will still be able to take foreign language classes for a grade. Foreign language majors cannot opt for credit, no credit.

Bitterbaum also said the standard has been increased for the classes.

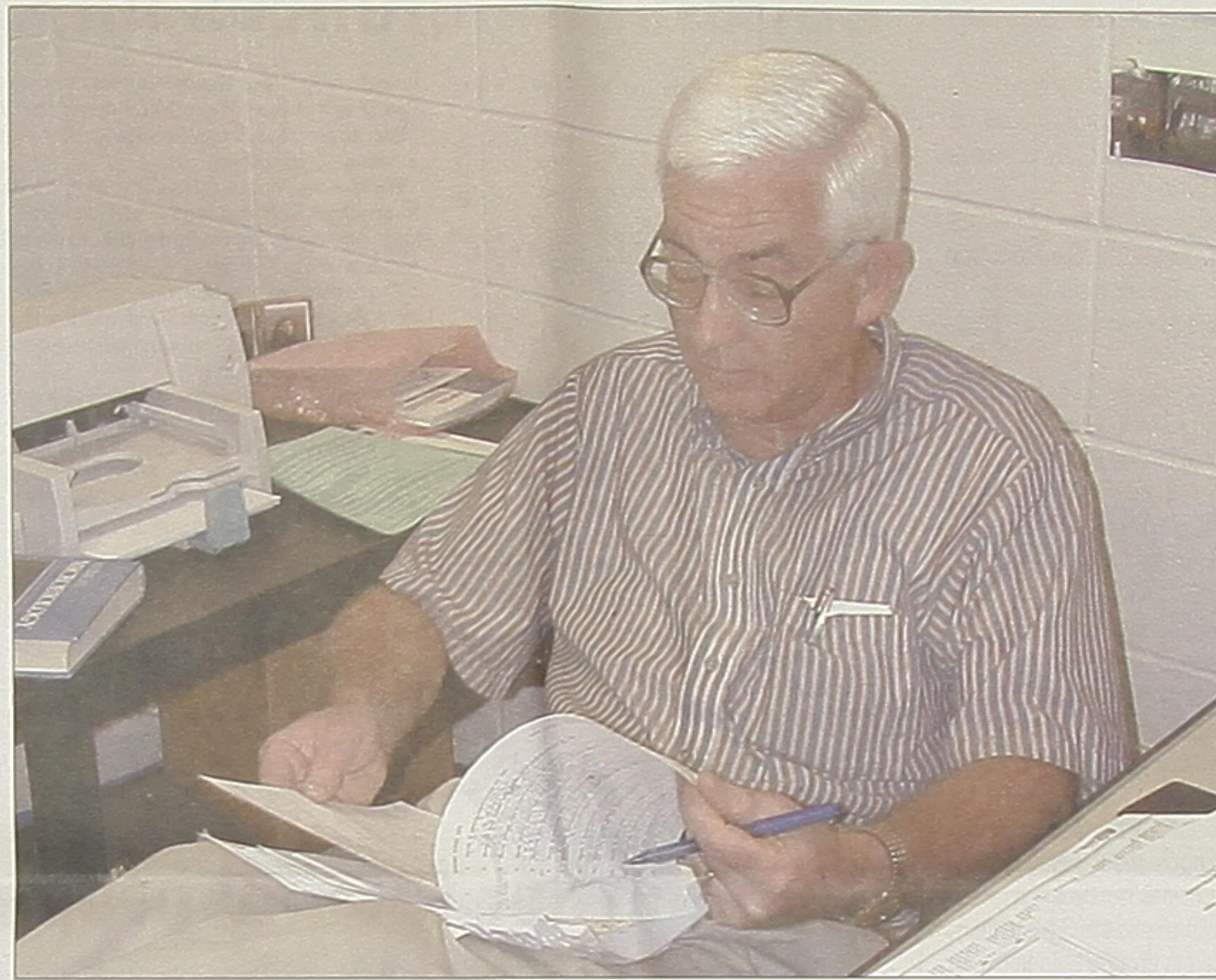
"Faculty in foreign languages require that students at least receive a C or better to get the credit," he said. "We want to see if this will encourage more students to take the first series of courses."

"The foreign language faculty came up with I think some interesting ideas, and we're working very hard to increase the number of students," he said. □



Dr. Erik Bitterbaum
Vice President for Academic Affairs

BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT



Dr. David Tillman, associate professor of biology, looks forward to spending more time out of the office and in the great outdoors after his pending retirement from Missouri Southern. □

Tillman plans move after retirement

By JANA BLANKENSHIP

ASSISTANT DESIGN EDITOR

After dedicating 24 years to Missouri Southern, Dr. David Tillman, associate professor of biology, is retiring this summer.

Tillman has been teaching such classes as Microbiology, Human Physiology and Anatomy, and Aquatic Ecology since 1975.

"My wife and I have two children still living at home," he said. "We plan to move to either Utah or Idaho to be closer to our other four children and six grandchildren."

Tillman also loves to fish and hunt and looks forward to being able to devote more time to both hobbies.

"I'm a fisherman at heart," he said. "I just want to be out of doors. I want to visit some of the beautiful natural parks such as Yellowstone."

Tillman's family has been supportive of his retirement, especially his wife.

"We're all for it," he said. "We're still relatively young and in good health. We're really looking forward to it."

He said he and his wife are looking forward to enjoying the things they couldn't when raising six children. They believe this is the opportune time for them to enjoy life.

"I've appreciated the quality and caliber of the students," he said. "So many of them come to school from the surrounding areas. It says a lot about the good people of the area and the good people they have raised."

"They have good values in their lives and don't seem to have all the problems associated with other areas."

Tillman believes the same way about the faculty of Southern.

"I can't think of finer people to spend a teaching career with," he said.

Over the years, Tillman has fond memories of when the children of former students come up to him and say their parents encouraged them to take his class. He likes knowing that someone has recommended his class.

"I don't know if I could say that I've ever had something difficult or unenjoyable while here," Tillman said.

"I've never dreaded or not wanted to come to work. I always looked forward to it."

Michael Lawson, assistant professor of biology, worked closely with Tillman through the years because they both taught Microbiology.

"I always hate to see someone leave with that much experience," Lawson said. "He has such a wide degree of versatility. He can teach anything."

He will always remember Tillman's "dry sense of humor."

Mostly, though, Lawson will remember how easy Tillman was to work with.

"He was very flexible and easy to get along with," Lawson said. "He was an excellent departmental man. He always kept in mind the good of the students. Whenever we had a department meeting and debated changes, he was always concerned about the students."

Lawson said the department wishes Tillman well in his retirement.

"We will miss him around here," he said.

Although Tillman is excited and looking forward to his retirement, he also has mixed emotions.

"It's time for a new start," he said. "When you do something for 24 to 25 years and you're still young enough to do something else, it's nice."

"I could stay and teach with no hesitations, but there are other priorities, such as six grandchildren." □

SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY

Instructors to team-teach International Techno-Trends

Southern establishing base for partner college

By JANA BLANKENSHIP

ASSISTANT DESIGN EDITOR

Anew class filled with opportunities will be hitting Missouri Southern next fall.

International Techno-Trends will be team-taught by four or five instructors from the school of technology from 2:30 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Tia Strait, assistant to the dean of technolo-

gy, has been working with the school for the past three years developing the course worth three credit hours.

"I think it's going to be a really fun class because you'll get such a variety," Strait said.

The class will be taught in four segments. The first, Technological Issues and International Health, will begin Aug. 24 and run through Sept. 16. Technological Issues and International Manufacturing, the next segment, will be taught from Sept. 21 through Oct. 14.

The third portion of the class, Technological Issues and International Communication, will run Oct. 19 through

Nov. 11. The final segment, International Issues and Criminal Justice, will be taught Nov. 16 through Dec. 9.

Strait said all the instructors will meet with the class for the first day of class, then each instructor will teach his or her segment. They will all meet back together to prepare for the final exam.

Instructors for the class include Richard Spencer, instructor of criminal justice; Dr. Moe Eze, associate professor of manufacturing information systems; Grace Ayton, assistant professor of nursing; and Hartford Tunnell, assistant professor of computer information science.

"The class is to give students a flavor for what technology is internationally by pulling it all together," Strait said.

"It's a new venture because it's never been done before. The people doing it are pioneers."

Dr. J.S. Duggal, head of the CADD/CAMT department, originally was to be one of the instructors of the class. He may still teach part of the course, but not likely.

"The course will help students in technology to know about technology as it is practiced," Duggal said. "It will show them the impact of technology in the various areas of manufacturing." □

SOUTHERN NEWS BRIEFS

Paothong claims state photography title

Noppadol Paothong, director of photography for *The Chart*, was named Missouri College Photojournalist of the Year at Saturday's Missouri College Media Association Convention in Columbia.

Paothong, a transfer from North Idaho College, competed against four other photojournalists for the award. Applicants submitted portfolios of their work and letters of recommendation, and were interviewed individually. They also were handed a digital camera and told to come back in 10 minutes with a photo taken at the convention hotel.

Judges were from the University of Missouri School of Journalism.

Paothong also won first- and second-place awards for best photo page and a second-place award for feature photography. The first-place award for best photo page was shared with Jeff Billington.

Andre Smith won first-place awards for information graphics and best sports page and an honorable mention for sports column.

Tim Wilson won second place in news photography, Nick Parker won second place for best page one design, Aaron Deslatte won third place for feature writing, and John Smaha won third place for advertising. Honorable mentions were won by Deslatte and Jeff Wells, news writing; and Andrea Wilkinson, political/editorial cartoon.

The Chart won first place for special supplement, second place for best overall newspaper, third place for best editorial page, and honorable mention for special supplement.

The *Maneater* of the University of Missouri was named Missouri's best college newspaper, ending *The Chart's* two-year reign. □

Campus appreciation activities slated for week

The second annual Campus Appreciation Week starts Sunday with a poetry festival from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Lions' Den. Poets from the College and community, including Carthage historian Marvin VanGilder, will read their nature poetry.

Dr. John Messick, head of the biology department, will give a lecture on economics at 11 a.m. Wednesday on the second floor of the Billingsly Student Center. Economics is the study of practices that maintain natural resources and promote economic profitability.

A tree-planting ceremony will begin at noon on Thursday (Earth Day) near the southwest corner of the Anderson Justice Center.

Dr. Erik Bitterbaum, vice president for academic affairs; Dr. Jack Spurlin, dean of technology; and campus gardener Al Wood will preside.

At 12:15 p.m. Thursday, winners of the poetry, essay, and photography contests will be announced in the auditorium of the Anderson Justice Center. Dr. Jim Jackson, professor of biology, will lead a wildflower walk at 2 p.m. by the Biology Pond.

An outdoor concert featuring four local bands (Fern, Fourfiftysix, Mychicksaseal, and Carbon Star) will be held from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday on the campus oval.

Dr. Ann Marlowe, professor of English, has spearheaded the Campus Appreciation Week activities. □

Faculty voice recital set for 7:30 p.m. Thursday

Dr. Susan Smith, assistant professor of music, will perform in a faculty voice recital at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in Webster Hall auditorium.

Pianist Henry Jones and flautists Leslie Carlson and Kelley Mann will accompany Smith. Her program will include selections by Handel, Mozart, Duparc, Schubert, and "A Word On My Ear" by Michael Flanders and Donald Swann.

Smith specializes in vocal performance, pedagogy, repertoire as well as opera and musical theatre.

She has performed numerous operatic roles and as a guest soloist. □

The Chart PUBLIC FORUM

Page 4

Friday, April 16, 1999

OUR EDITORIAL

Unsigned editorials on this page express the opinions of a majority of The Chart editors. Observations elsewhere on the page represent independent viewpoints of columnists, cartoonists, and readers.

Senate needs to practice up on leadership

A disturbing trend has developed this year among Missouri Southern Student Senators. It may be laziness or apathy, but whatever the cause they are not fulfilling the leadership role mandated to them by the student body.

This week provided many illustrations of the Senators' refusal to give of themselves for the betterment of the College. Three times this week Senators had the opportunity to step up and volunteer. Three times they failed to do so.

One day every semester the Senate provides a Coke wagon on the Oval and serves soft drinks. The Senators man the wagon on a volunteer basis. So few turned out Tuesday that Jason Kiefer, the chairman of the food committee, made a naughty list longer than Santa's.

Another disappointing lack of spirit was the Senate's decision to cancel the Casino Night during Spring Fling. Casino Night, which would have benefited the United Way, is Senate's major volunteer effort each year.

Senate President Jesse DeGonia admitted that many Senators wanted Casino Night, but like the Coke wagon were unwillingly to help.

Inability to find a consistent candidate to fill the office of Senate vice-president may have been another factor that doomed Casino Night. The vice-president traditionally oversees the activity. Three people have held the office this year.

One can only hope the Campus Activities Board will step in and save this important event.

Senators failed to live up to expectations by denying students their talent and experience by not furthering their political careers and running for executive positions next year.

Senate assistant adviser Ron Mitchell told the Senate the truth. He said the Senate is supposed to provide leadership for Southern. They should not be afraid to take risks.

Unfortunately, close followers of the current Senate could have predicted the events of this week. Senate attendance fluctuates drastically.

This week many Senators did not realize they were meeting. Barely enough were present for a role call. They should explain why this meeting was so disorganized and a surprise to many of their own. However unlikely, perhaps the vote on Casino Night would have been different with the presence of the entire body.

If the Senators are unwilling to contribute time to Senate activities they should choose not to run for seats next year. □

The Chart welcomes letters from readers. Letters must be signed and include a phone number for verification. Letters should be 300 words or fewer. Submit letters to The Chart office on the third floor of Webster Hall, fax them to (417) 625-9742, or send via e-mail. Our e-mail address: Chart@mailmssc.edu. Letters are due by noon Monday for publication in that week's edition.

IN PERSPECTIVE

Leaders for the new millennium currently in class at Southern

Driving to and from St. Louis last weekend, listening to Dr. Oscar Arias, the Nobel Peace Prize winner who was recently on campus, thinking about the future honor students — all have given me pause of late. What is my perspective on the future? What is yours? Kurt Vonnegut cautions the Generation Xers to "wear sunscreen" because that is one of the only things that has been proven scientifically to be beneficial to the human being. The second millennium of the Anno Domini years is almost upon us. What will the future bring? Does anyone care?

Hope is my eternal and useful perspective, but lately a certain skepticism has found its way into my being. The



Dr. Pat Kluthe
Assistant Honors
Director

NATO actions in Kosovo are scary, because like John Donne, I believe that "any man's death diminishes me, for I am involved in mankind."

And so are you. The lack of moral leadership in the United States is one of our problems, Dr. Arias believes.

How many truly do believe that the deaths in Kosovo concern them? Since they are "out of sight," are they also "out of mind"? Do we relate to the bombings, or are we just concerned about where we should go for lunch?

As we accept an international mission at Missouri Southern, will we also be able to look beyond our shores with the conscience of a virtuous people and work toward peace and understanding, although those ends may never be realized?

Is there truly an "endism" which has seeped into our humanity convincing us that as long as it doesn't touch me, it doesn't matter to me because we will all be ash soon enough?

Is it true that there are people without conscience today?

I get really irritated when folks scoff and say, "Well, what can you expect from those people in southwest Missouri, they are isolated and myopic, and certainly have no global perspective." Balderdash!!!

Every day I go to class, I want to believe that the persons who will solve the crises of the future are in that classroom; that they need to learn about why Macbeth's kingdom is a fruitless and violent one, and know that if they learn the process and decline of a valiant and brave soldier who becomes a "mad butcher," or if they are exposed to the downfall and tragedy of Willie Loman who longs to die the "Death of a Salesman" but does not, they will be better equipped to solve the global problems of the new millennium with a moral conscience, but I think they think I am crazy (maybe I am — my children tell me so often enough).

The fabulous technology of today can allow the globe

into our homes, but our hearts must be moved by the plight of the suffering of others.

Now more than ever we must form our own personal philosophies which will equip us to deal with political structures, uncertainty, economic instability, injustice, inhumanity, and we must be able to answer comfortably and assuredly the questions, "Where have you come from, and where are you going?"

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The Chart, the newspaper of Missouri Southern State College, is published weekly, except during holidays and examination periods, from August through May, by students in communications as a laboratory experience. Views expressed do not represent the opinions of the administration, faculty, or the student body.

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ANDREA'S ANGLE



EDITOR'S COLUMN

Cultural differences make for bad diet

America has long been described as the world's melting pot. Living in the Midwest, however, I have never been exposed to a variety of cultures or food. Visitors may arrive from elsewhere in the world, but the taste of a foreign land is soon diluted in our society.

Even large communities of immigrants in the United States do not reflect the nature of their menu as it exists in their homelands.

When I arrived in Paris over spring break, I wanted to see the sights but also sample European culture. I do not refer to French culture because of the large number of other nationalities present in the city. Before I could sample European culture, I had to learn to communicate without using English.

A few hours after arriving, I left the hotel with fellow students Aaron Deslatte, Jeff Billington, and Scott Haar. Suffering from jet lag and sporting five o'clock shadow on our faces, we set out



Jeff Wells
Managing Editor

to explore the Rive Gauche and find our way to the Eiffel Tower. We walked down the Rue Malar toward the Seine, turning left toward the Tower on Quai d'Orsay.

We eyed a brasserie on the Avenue de la Bourdonnais. It was named La Tour Eiffel. We knew we had to approach the culture soon, but we were still not ready.

The streets of the Seventh Arrondissement were deserted as we continued walking toward the Tower. It was not yet open, and we decided to return to the hotel.

We worked up the nerve to enter the brasserie on the way back.

After lingering inside the door for several minutes, I approached the counter. The black-and-white-dressed Parisian, with an obvious bald spot he was attempting to disguise, did not approach me.

He continued to trade comments with a local. The older customer probably frequented the brasserie. His dog curled up on the floor as he and the waiter talked.

While I was at the counter, Deslatte, Billington, and Haar sat at a table, and I joined them after not receiving an overtire from the waiter. For several minutes we tried to decide what to do. Finally, the waiter approached us.

"Bonjour monsieur," I said.

"Bonjour, ça va?" he replied.

"Ça va," I said. "J'ai voudrais un jambon, sil vous plait."

"Sandwich?"

"Oui, et un coca."

"Coca?"

"Coca-Cola."

And so I survived my first international encounter. I had ordered an inexpensive ham sandwich and a Coke. The others indicated they would have the same. The waiter returned to the table with four sandwiches on two plates. Fortunately, he did bring each of us our own glass of Coca-Cola. The sandwiches were about a foot long with four slices of very thin cut ham and a couple of slices of cheese. The bread was buttered and very tough to chew.

The longer we were in Paris, the easier it was to communicate.

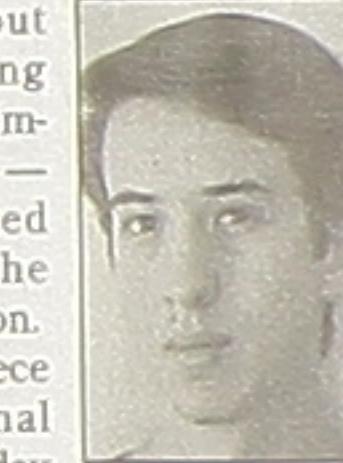
In most restaurants, the waiters spoke a little English, though a few times we had to use French. The menu of foods I felt comfortable ordering and eating expanded, but on several occasions I had to suffer through a jambon to satisfy my hunger.

Thank goodness I was able to find McDonald's. □

EDITOR'S COLUMN

Give former faculty proper memorials

Giving 30-plus years of service to a college appears to get a person, if he's lucky, a free dinner.



Jeff Billington
Executive Editor

and maybe only three of the 31 students residing there vaguely know who it is named after.

Aside from this building, the name Gockel was fading into history until, after the death of Berniece Gockel, it was saved. I say this because when she died a few years ago, the Gockels' last will and testament gave money to the College for use in starting a symposium.

The name Gockel was given a chance to remain alive at Southern.

But there have been so many others, and the most a Southern faculty member gets is the hollow title of emeritus faculty, or a residence hall.

Blaine Hall, for starters, is named for Harry Blaine, the first dean of students at Joplin Junior College. He did not even get this honor until 1992, when the current Webster Hall was built and they needed a new name for the then nameless men's residence hall.

There are several other people who have been honored like this over the years, including Cleetus Headlee, who Richard Massa has often complimented for turning *The Chart* into a proper publication and being one of the forerunners

of everything he has tried to do at Southern.

But these buildings are dominated by freshmen and sophomores, most of whom do not care or know of the prestigious people whose names grace them.

Most of the main buildings are named after former Board of Regents members and those who have given enough money.

Why not the Loretta Frazier Library? Sure, she did not give the money George Spiva did, but she spent her career as the College's head librarian.

I'm sure asking for buildings to be renamed for these influential members of Southern's past is too much, but I do have a suggestion.

A wall, a single wall, containing framed pictures of retired and deceased faculty members who have made a difference over the years for the College. Nothing fancy or extreme, just simple framed photographs denoting their service, so the Dr. Vernon Baiamontes and Dr. Judith Conboys are never as forgotten as Dr. Paul Stevick, who taught philosophy and sociology, died in the early 1950s. □

into our homes, but our hearts must be moved by the plight of the suffering of others.

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The Chart

SOUTHERN FACES

By MICHAEL JOHNSTON
CHART REPORTER

Art is a passion for some people. One of these art lovers is Vinny Fall, sophomore marketing major. Fall began getting serious about his artwork as a sophomore in high school.

All of Fall's skills were self-taught. Using colored pencils, he primarily focuses on sports illustrations. Fall has drawn figures such as Muhammad Ali and George Brett, but admits his favorite is one of John Elway.

"I'm working on a new drawing of Elway," he said.

"I want to send this one to him in the mail."

Fall thinks Elway has been one of the most influential people in his life, as well as Jim Morrison, the lead singer of The Doors.

"He (Morrison) did what he wanted to do," Fall said.

"I don't necessarily agree with his beliefs, but he didn't let anything hold him back."

Fall lived in Mankato, Kan., until he was 4 years old. His family then moved to Boulder, Colo., and back to Kansas when he was in the third grade.

Fall moved to his current home in Jasper when he was a junior in high school.

While at Jasper, Fall entered his artwork in area high school contests. He won first place at every show he competed in.

"I remember one art show where I received first, second, third, and honorable mention," he said, modestly.

After graduating from Jasper High School in 1995, Fall attended Missouri Southern and majored in art. He drew the covers for the 1996 Lions' football programs.

Fall decided to take some time off from school and move to Florida to stay with his mother.

"I had a blast while I lived there," he said.

During his stay in Florida, Fall resided in Yankeetown, a small town outside of Gainesville. He visited Busch Gardens, Daytona Beach, and went snorkeling in Dunnellon. Fall also had a friend with a yacht in Fort Lauderdale.

"I spent quite a bit of time in Margaritaville, too," he said.

Fall returned to Jasper in 1998 and came back to Southern last fall. He has decided to major in marketing this year instead of art, but hasn't lost the love for his passion.

"I want to learn the business skills I'll need to open up my own art studio," Fall said.

"That is my career goal in life. I'm taking classes for a certificate in entrepreneurship."

Some of Fall's pastimes include football, watching the Denver Broncos, and long-distance running.

He also has a couple of favorite accomplishments in his life. Fall received first team all-state wide receiver his senior year.

Spending time at the beaches and bars in Florida was also a big part of his life, he said.

The advice he gives to students as well as everyone else is to remain a true person.

"Don't be afraid to be yourself," Fall said. □

BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT



Pepper Gordon, senior biology major, spends time at the park with her four-year-old daughter, Tessa. Gordon volunteers locally both at George Washington Carver National Monument, and at LifeChoices Crisis Pregnancy Center.

JANA BLANKENSHIP
The Chart

Gordon finds daughter joy of life

By KRISTIN KRAZBERGER
CHART REPORTER

Social interaction was a skill Pepper Gordon developed at a young age.

Gordon, a senior biology major, has been exposed to many cultures her entire life. A childhood on an Air Force base required a good deal of socialization.

"I enjoyed mixing with other cultures," Gordon said of her stay in Europe.

"Germany was a lot of fun."

Gordon lived two years in Germany and a total of seven years on various bases in California, Oklahoma, Kansas, and eventually Missouri. She now enjoys traveling because of her unusual childhood, and hopes to incorporate this into her career.

One aspect of European culture that surprised Gordon was the openness the people seemed to have.

"Nude beaches came as a shock," she said. "I grew up really fast."

Gordon's love of Germany also influenced her college career. She

chose to minor in German, a language that stood out to her, and she hopes to utilize it in the future.

Gordon balances her college career with being a single mother to 4-year-old daughter Tessa.

"You know you're a mother when you don't notice really bad odors anymore," she said.

"I love being a mother, though."

Although it was not a planned pregnancy, Gordon finds her daughter the joy of her life and thoroughly enjoys motherhood.

When not taking care of her daughter, Gordon is working hard to get an education.

She hopes to obtain her degree in biology, and then test some job possibilities.

"An interesting career to me would be teaching college-age," she said.

Gordon finds she is most compatible with this age group and thinks education in the field of biology would be enjoyable.

Other careers of interest to Gordon are as a medical technician in a hospital setting or studying sharks.

These are drastically different subjects, but she wants a sample of all areas.

"I've always liked studying sharks, and *Jaws* has always been my favorite movie," she explained.

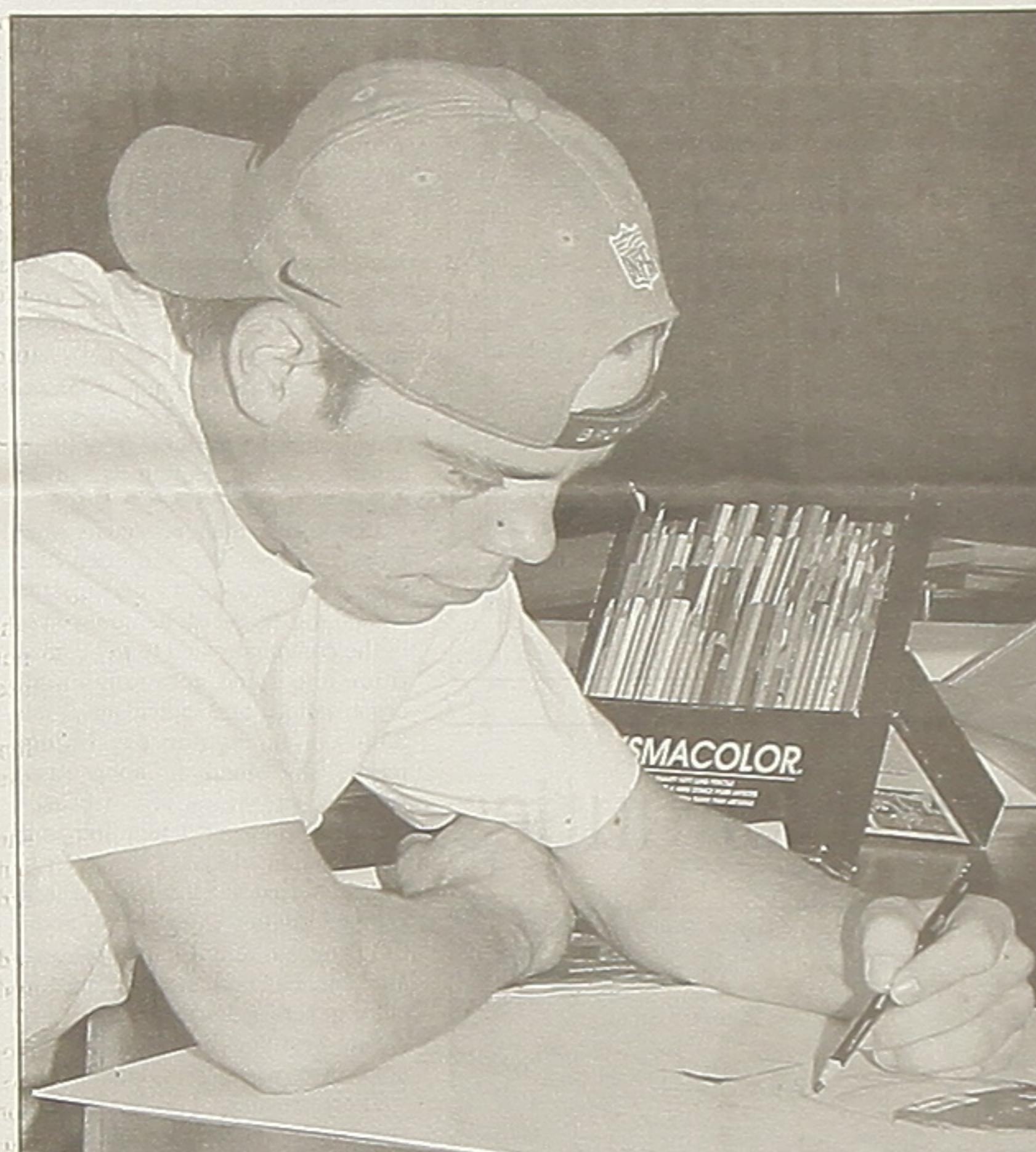
Besides college and being a mother, Gordon does extensive volunteer work around the area. She conducts tours in the summer and works in the discovery center at George Washington Carver National Monument near Diamond. Gordon uses her knowledge of biology to help educate children.

Along with working at the park, she also volunteers for LifeChoices Crisis Pregnancy Center in Joplin. The Christian organization specializes in helping troubled pregnancies.

"It is really rewarding to help women in times of crisis who count on us to give support and guidance," Gordon said.

Finding time to do everything does prove to be a challenge.

"There's so much that I want to do, it's hard to find time with school and Tessa, but I try," she said. □



Vinny Fall, sophomore marketing major, spends free time working on art projects. Some of his favorite subjects include sports figures.

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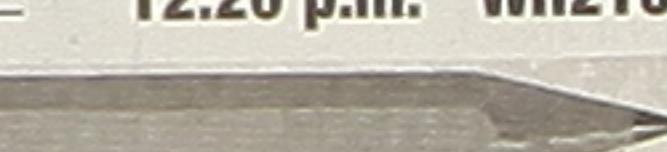


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12:20 p.m. WH210

TEST

Test:
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OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARD

NOMINATE AN OUTSTANDING TEACHER

Nomination forms are available in the Learning Center, Spiva Library, Billingsly Student Center, and Alumni Office. Nominations may be made by faculty, alumni, and students. To be eligible, faculty must be full-time, be teaching at least six credit hours a semester, and be in their third year of teaching at Southern. Completed forms may be placed in mailbox 110 in Office Services, Hearnes Hall Room 106.

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Around Campus

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

Club participates in Orthodox Easter

Russian students travel to Kansas City

By ANGIE WILLIAMS
STAFF WRITER

A weekend trip to Kansas City doesn't seem far, but for the Russian Club it was a world away.

On Saturday morning, Tatiana Karmanova, director of the International Language Resource Center and adviser to the Russian Club, took off for Kansas City with three goals in mind: to explore the Russian community, visit the Russian dinosaur exhibit, and attend the Easter service at the

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church. By Sunday club members had accomplished those goals plus some.

Upon arrival in Kansas City, club members headed for Crown Center to explore the Russian Dinosaur Exhibition.

The unique value of this museum is that you get to ask questions," Karmanova said. "And you can observe details up close."

She said the dinosaur exhibit had a paleontologist on duty so people could ask questions about the exhibit.

Karmanova said she learned the tyrannosaurus Rex was not a predator but a scavenger and that its arms were short because they were evolving out of them to be more

like the wings of birds. After visiting the museum, the group headed out to dinner, then in the direction of the Orthodox Church for Easter service, scheduled to begin at midnight.

Egor Hanov, a senior marketing and computer science major and a native Russian, says he was a little disappointed because the church and service were customized to local custom and not traditional ones.

"For those who have never seen it," Hanov said, "it's really different."

The Russian Easter service traditionally starts at midnight and goes all night, but this particular service lasted only a few hours.

Throughout the entire service, everyone stands and prays or humbles themselves while only the choir sings. Sometimes they light candles or go outside while the bells toll, or they read scripture. During this service the scriptures were read in seven languages: Greek, Latin, Russian, Rumanian, French, Spanish, and German.

I was surprised," Hanov said. "It wasn't just Russians or Russian descendants, but it was all mixed."

"They have the altar hidden behind doors," Karmanova added. "And they only open it during the service."

On Sunday, the group went to the Russian Village, where they spoke only Russian and were surprised by

how much they could understand. "My Russian students said they could understand what I was saying and what the store owner was saying, too," Karmanova said.

The group met up with a store owner who told them the history of Russian immigrants.

"He was very interesting," Karmanova said. "He keeps in touch with the whole Russian community in Kansas City."

In Karmanova's eyes, the trip was a definite learning experience and worthwhile. She hopes to continue taking trips in the future so more students will have the opportunity to learn about different cultures.

"It was a wonderful trip," she said. "I wish more people could go." □

THIRST QUENCHERS



In front of Billingsly Student Center, Carrie Shannon, sophomore accounting major, and Jason Kiefer, junior secondary education major, serve some tasty beverages to students Tuesday. Student Senate volunteers worked at the Coke wagon.

Campus Calendar

If your organization has an event you would like publicized, call Erin Sellers at 625-9311.

Campus Appreciation Week

Poetry readings, nature walks, live music and a CAB sponsored rock-climbing simulation are some of the activities next week to celebrate Campus Appreciation week, April 18-23.

Today

16

11 a.m.

"Colonial North America: A Personal View," in Webster Auditorium.

Monday

19

Enrollment for 30+ hours

Tuesday

20

Southern Lantern Society Banquet

12:20 p.m.-

Missouri Constitution lecture given in Webster Hall, Room 210.

Thursday

22

Earth Day

2 p.m.-

Dr. Jim Jackson presents a Wildflower Walk around the Biology Pond.

RESIDENCE HALLS

New student assistants prepare for duties

By ERIN SELLERS
CAMPUS EDITOR

The changing of the residence hall guard has occurred. The week before spring break, the residence hall staff chose five new student assistants (SAs) for next fall.

LaShawn Brewster, Veronica Stephenson, Carla Fairbanks, Lindsey Carnahan, and Christy Olson make up the list of the five new SAs.

The SAs were interviewed by Holley Goodnight and Ron Mitchell, residence hall directors, and the current SAs on staff.

To qualify for the SA position, students must be enrolled in 12 hours and have at least a grade-point average of 2.2.

"There are no absolute personality qualifications," Goodnight said. "They must be committed to group living and committed to student growth."

All but two of the new SAs were residence hall students. Carnahan, freshman secondary education major, and Olson, sophomore dental hygiene major, recently moved on campus in order to gain some experience for next year.

"I had eight people living in my house, so it made it a lot easier to come here," Olson said.

Olson, who works in the student services office, said the staff there urged her to apply for the SA position.

"I was really nervous [during the interview]," she said. "It was really hard because I knew them. You had to be more professional; you can't be lackadaisical."

Olson also thinks experience gained from working in the student services office will aid in next year's duties.

"I think I could give really good



Carla Fairbanks, freshman biology major, is one of the five new student assistants starting in the fall.

advice," Olson said. "It's going to be a lot easier to be an SA since I know a lot of what's going on."

Carnahan is the daughter of Doug Carnahan, dean of students.

"Most people recognize that he's my dad, but it's no big deal," she said.

Freedom was a partial motivating factor for Carnahan's decision to become an SA.

"I wanted a bit more freedom from my parents," Carnahan said. "Also, it gives me more of a chance for involvement and interaction."

Even though she didn't live on campus until recently, Carnahan is a member of the band, a College Orientation leader, and a Southern Ambassador. She is employed at the College's swimming pool.

Each of the new SAs has her

own plans on how to get the residence students involved next semester.

"I want to give the freshmen girls as good of an opportunity as I had," said Stephenson, freshman dental hygiene major. "Coming to the dorms isn't a bad thing for them. I want McCormick Hall to radiate good vibes."

Each SA gets her own room. Stephenson plans to leave the extra bed for the women in her wing to use.

"It will be there for those who are homesick or to chill out," she said.

Fairbanks, freshman biology major, didn't know anyone when coming to Southern. She wants to make incoming freshmen's transition to college life easier.

"I'll be there to lean on," she said. "I want them to have at least

one person on campus who knows they're alive."

The SA selection process was competitive this year. More than 20 applied for the five positions.

"It was a really hard decision," Goodnight said. "We had many good applicants. It's a good problem to have. We felt that these girls were slightly above and beyond the rest. They could do the job we needed done."

Stephenson was surprised by the selectiveness of the SA application process.

"It's a real prestigious thing," she said. "I felt very honored when I got it after I found out what people applied."

Since all the SAs are either freshmen or sophomores, they will have the opportunity to keep their positions until they graduate. They will assume their new roles next semester. □

UNITED WAY

'Caring' is becoming tradition

Organizations donate time and effort to help

By MELODY LANING
STAFF WRITER

Working together, both as individuals and as a team, Missouri Southern students and organizations are spending time volunteering and giving back to the local Joplin community. This is emphasized mainly in April, labeled as the "Month of Caring."

The "Month of Caring" lasts from April 1-30. This is its second year at the College, and involves both individuals and organizations willing to volunteer their time to local projects. This includes a wide range of items, anywhere from painting to babysitting.

"Last year in Student Senate, when I was vice president and Eden Aber was president, we wanted to start something to get students involved in the community and to get competition and spirit going on among organizations and individuals," said Sandy Fisk, senior psychology major. "The 'Month of Caring' wasn't very well-known last year because I was unable to get it together until the beginning of April."

Packets that are available around campus contain information about the program and a list of projects available. Each organization must fill out a general information sheet and list its first and second choices of projects for which to volunteer.

"There are about 12 different agencies that have contributed around three different projects," Fisk said. "These include painting at the Lafayette House and working with children at the Cerebral Palsy Center."

Several organizations on-campus sponsored April's "Month of Caring," including the Student Senate, Campus Activities Board, Student Services and United Way of Joplin. The United Way of Joplin was the organization responsible for contacting the local agencies and finding out what projects needed help.

"We also worked with CAB on this project," Fisk said. "They contributed \$1,000 for prizes."

The organization that volunteers the most hours, divided by the members volunteering, receives first place and a \$500 prize. Second place receives \$300, and third receives \$200. Each member volunteering receives a certificate. The winners are announced at the Spring Fling picnic on May 7.

One of the organizations involved is the psychology club.

"We thought that it would be a good practical experience for the club," said Eva McAdams, senior psychology major. "We were also involved last year in which we won first place."

Fisk wants the College to carry on the "Month of Caring" long after she has graduated.

"I formed a committee on the Student Senate to keep the project going after I have graduated," she said. "Nicole Hollenberg, secretary of the Senate, is the chairperson or spokesperson of the committee." □

Southern poetic duo team up at Spiva Gallery

By CHRIS ROBERTS
STAFF WRITER

A little splash of culture made its way onto the Missouri Southern campus Wednesday afternoon. A poetry reading, compliments of Sigma Tau Delta, the English honors society, featured Southern's own Dr. Jimmy Couch and Michael Rodgers, both from the English department.

Long-time experts in the art of poetry performance, Couch and Rodgers graced the ears of Southern students and faculty with a one-hour presentation.

Rodgers, an experienced performance artist, has had a number of engagements similar to this one.

"I've been all over," he said. "Cleveland, Tulsa, Carthage. It's lots of fun to do this kind of stuff."

Rodgers got started in his hometown of Cleveland. From there he has had parts in many a culture show, although he much prefers doing poetry slams.

"I would rather do slams," he said, "when and if I get the inkling."

Couch, a member of the Missouri Cowboy Poets Society, has also shown his poetic talents nationwide.

"I get to do a lot of performances through the Poets Society," he said. "And this event is just another one of our gatherings."

He said the society is formulating a scholarship for students within the state of Missouri who want to major in ranch management. Culture readings such as these are one way to help promote the society and bring awareness to students statewide.

Like Rodgers, Couch also got started with culture readings in his hometown in north-central Texas.

"Most of my poetry comes from my experiences of growing up on a ranch," Couch said. "I've got poems about losing my dog and life on the ranch, and even one about a gasoline fire."

After a brief introduction from Deborah Muse, Sigma Tau Delta president, Rodgers began with a memorized performance of one of his own poems called "Epilogue." Though advising the audience of his inevitable nervousness at the start, Rodgers' flowing expression was far from shaky.

The audience quickly warmed to his choice words, brought to life through his articulate performing style, reminiscent of a cadence from a southern gospel preacher.

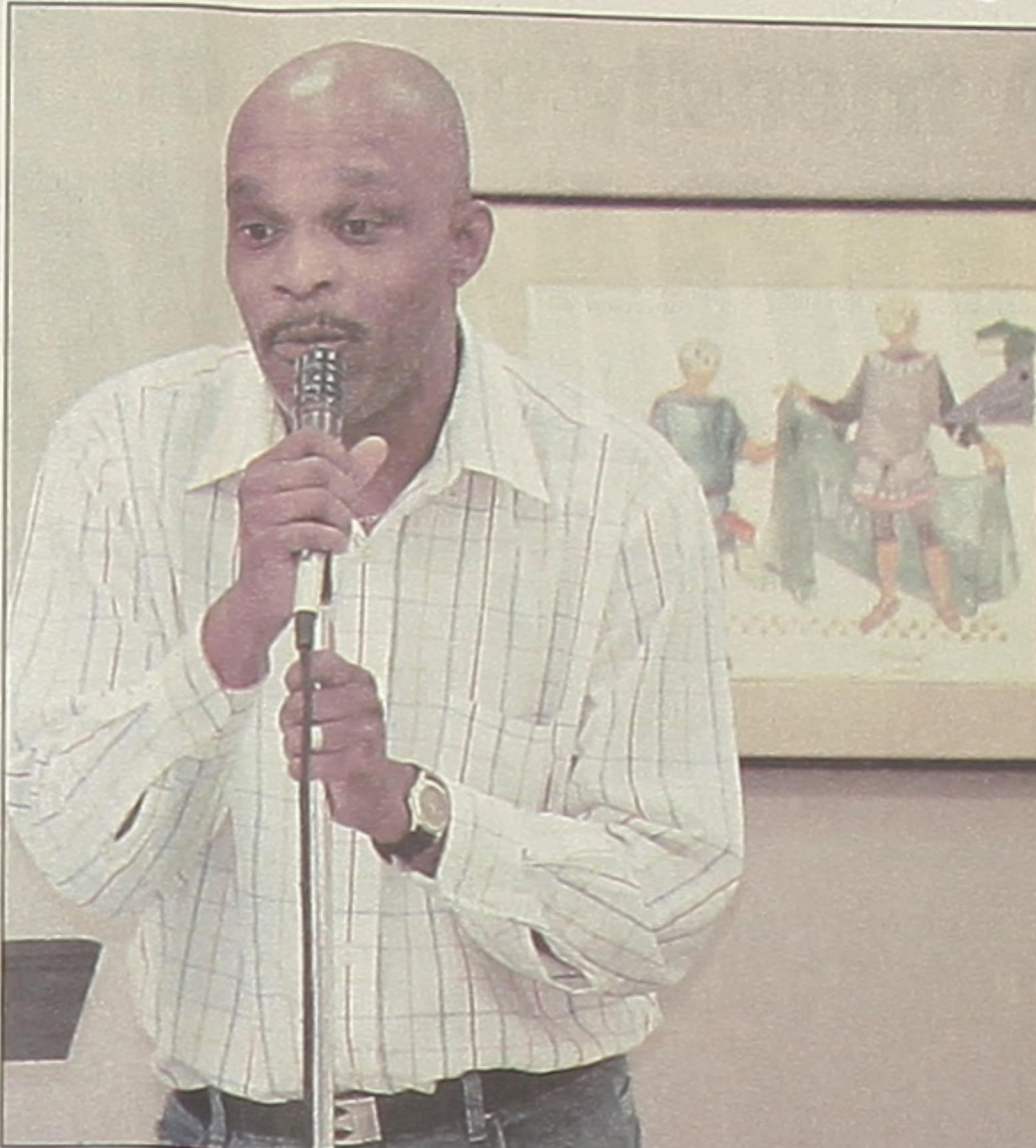
Many in the audience smiled as he began to sway from side to side, getting into the mood. Finishing off with a meek "thanks," Rodgers tag-teamed over to Couch, who then delighted the audience with a humorous poem called "Black Dogs."

The afternoon progressed in similar fashion until finally the audience groaned as the two completed their performances.

As the spectators meandered out, Muse expressed her delight at the number of people present.

"Usually there are only a handful, but sometimes we can have more," she said. "This is a great turnout, though."

"It's nice to have people like Mike and Jimmy enlighten us with their poetry," Muse said. "Hopefully more people will start getting into it." □



MIKE RODGERS, assistant English professor, recites some of his poetry at the Spiva Art Gallery on Wednesday. Dr. Jimmy Couch, English professor, also performed.

HEARTLAND OPERA THEATRE

Grand Expectations to present encore in Webster Auditorium

BY VINCE SWEENEY
STAFF WRITER

After a good reaction in December, members of the Grand Expectations concert have decided to put on another performance similar to the first one.

The encore, presented by Heartland Opera Theatre, will feature opera, operetta, and musical theatre selections. The four stars are Rebecca Luebber, a student at Missouri Southern and a professional model; Terrence O'Brien, general director of Heartland Opera Theatre; Angela Stansberry, a student at Southern and part-time music teacher at the College; and Tamara Barnett, a travel agent for Leggett and Platt who has done some singing in the area for musical theatre and oratorio.

O'Brien, general director of the company, said the concert is similar to a show seen on Broadway. The first half of the opera is in French with translations appearing in the program. The second half is musical theatre in English.

"We had a similar concert in December," O'Brien said. "People were wowed."

He notes there will be solos, duets, trios, and quartets. The accompanist will be Dr. Henry Jones, assistant professor of music.

Stansberry said the concert consists of several operas. In the end, they are all attempting to deal with some sort of expectation. She also points out the four performers have equal parts.

Stansberry was pleased with the response from the first concert and hopes for this one to be as

big a success. She hopes for an ever better show.

"It was great," she said. "A lot of people came up and said it was about time Joplin had something like this."

Stansberry also said costumes and props will be used for the second half of the program.

O'Brien said several students from the music department came to the concert's first performance. He believes people tend to have a misconception for art at times.

He recalls how, at the last concert, people who took an interest in arts brought friends who seemed reluctant. He found the reluctant ones to be more entertained than those who take such an interest in the arts. O'Brien thinks anyone who enjoys theatre and opera will enjoy the concert.

"It is not often you get a show like this," he said. "People wanted to know when there would be another, so we give you Grand Expectations Encore Presentation with a few changes."

O'Brien said to look for much comedy throughout the concert.

Stansberry said this concert is for people who did not see it before and those wishing to see it again.

Grand Expectations Encore Presentation will take place at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, April 23 in Webster Hall auditorium.

The second performance will be at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 25 in Webster Hall auditorium.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students. Students able to present an ID will be given the ticket for free. □

STONE'S THROW THEATRE

'Einstein' begins run

Audience participation, informality fuel play

BY CASSIE HOMBS
STAFF WRITER

Einstein, a Jewish man who escaped the Nazis, didn't have a formal high school education.

"He was actually a slow learner," Roehling said.

"I think that the audience will see that he's just like the rest of us, a normal person."

Heckert finds it amusing how normal Einstein was.

"Many people may not know that he used the money he won from his Nobel Peace Prize to pay for his divorce," he said. "He was so busy that he never had time for relationships. They never worked out for him."

"This reminds me of a Neil Simon play because of all the one-liners," said Henry Heckert, stage director. "This is not a dramatic, serious play at all."

The play, which runs for about an hour and 45 minutes, is an informal tale in which Einstein is speaking to the audience as if they were long-lost friends.

The audience's participation,

Heckert said, is part of what makes the story so enjoyable. It makes it an interactive experience.

"He's just basically talking to his friends," Heckert said. "He goes through his relationships with his past wives and his life and passions."

In an attempt to expose Einstein as an everyday Joe, the play shows parts of his life the average audience may not know.

Arts

Calendar

If your organization has an event you would like publicized, call Eric Gruber at 625-9311.



Stone's Throw Dinner Theatre in Carthage, presents "Einstein." Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. and the program begins at 7:30 p.m. "Einstein" will be showing April 16 and 17. Those wanting more information can call (417) 358-9665.

Friday

16

6:30 p.m.—
Stone's Throw Theatre
Presents
"Einstein"

Saturday

17

6:30 p.m.—
Stone's Throw Theatre
Presents
"Einstein"

Thursday

22

4 p.m.—
Earth Day Outdoor Celebration
Carbon Star, Mychicksaseal,
Fourfifty-six
Front Campus

7:30 p.m.—
Faculty Voice Recital,
Dr. Susan Smith
Webster Auditorium

Movie gives reasons to rent or even just watch cable

BY ERIC GRUBER
ARTS EDITOR

In the latest of cutesie date films to be manufactured from the Hollywood machine, *Never Been Kissed* highlights what most movies of this particular type lack— substance.

Drew Barrymore plays the part of Josie Gellar, a 25-year-old copy editor for the *Chicago Sun-Times*. She is talented in her profession, but her personal life sucks.

Her job is to go undercover at a local high school and report on today's teenagers. Barrymore's character was a geek in high school, and now she faces a similar problem with her return as a pseudo student.

Fortunately, her brother Rob, played by David Arquette, saves her from repeating her past by convincing a clique of "in crowd" girls that Josie is top-notch cool.

The premise of this movie is simple. If a person gets in the right crowd, then everyone will love you and popularity is certain.

Suddenly, I have a flash back of a movie with a similar plot. In the 1980s, there was this movie about a guy who pays to be in a relationship with an "in" person, which in turn causes him instant popularity.

I was thinking I had a case of déjà vu, but then I realized that it was because I've seen *Can't Buy Me Love* before seeing *Never Been Kissed*.

Now Josie faces the ultimate task — she must write her story, keep up with the cool kids, and fight her feelings of falling in love with her English teacher. The teacher also has feelings for Josie because of their common interests in literature and the arts, but of course he keeps a cool head.

This is an excellent portrayal of those student/teacher relationships that commonly happen within the dysfunctional educational systems of America but no one talks about.

Eventually Josie has to reveal herself when she saves an innocent uncool girl from getting Alpo dumped on her by the cool clique of girls.

Josie stands up for her and in doing so blows her cover; everybody knows you can't be cool and stand up for anything decent.

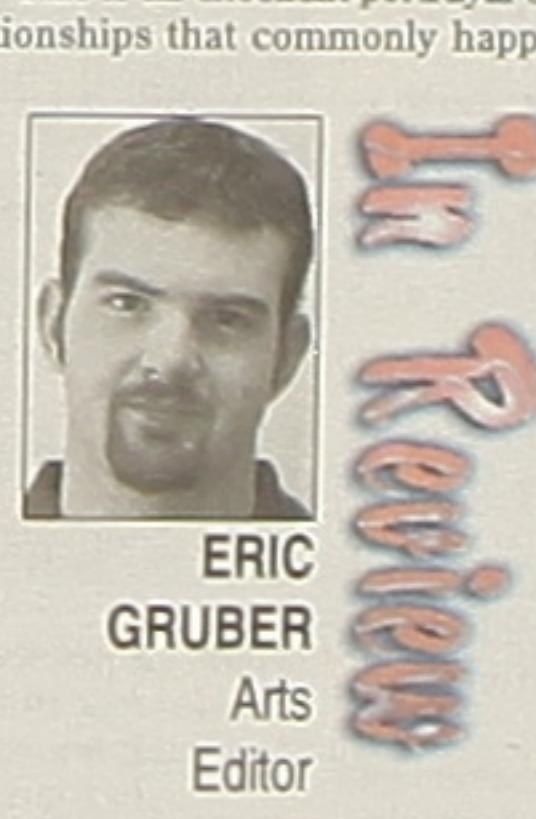
I couldn't believe that the think tanks in Hollywood couldn't contrive anything more interesting than a can of Alpo in this trite high school-focused movie.

Another downfall of this movie is that it falls during several other high school-oriented flicks such as *Varsity Blues*, which was great, and *10 Things I Hate About You*, which I walked out after 20 minutes because it was so horrible.

Never Been Kissed isn't a bad movie, and Barrymore's starring role is actually done very well. She has done an excellent job of switching different character roles in recent films.

Also, I don't know if it's just me, but David Arquette easily gets on my nerves. He should stick to those commercials.

The truth of the matter is that if you're looking for a good date movie, rent one from Hastings.



COURTESY OF 20TH CENTURY FOX

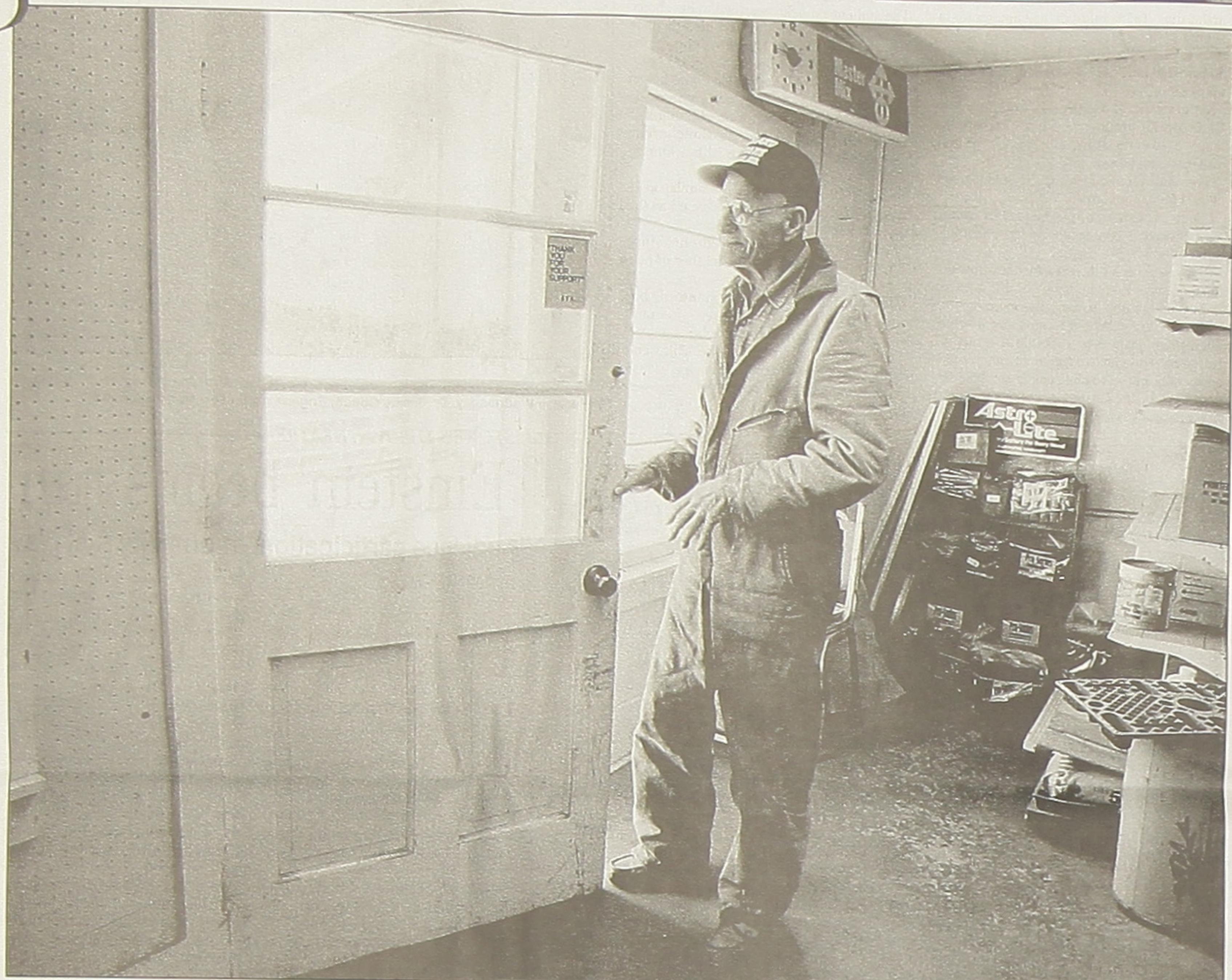
But if you're looking for a mediocre movie with a happy, gushy, feel-good ending that is based around the juvenility of high school, then head to Hollywood 14 Theaters and spend the seven bucks. □

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A CLOSER LOOK

Friday, April 16, 1999

A friendly game of **DOMINOES**



Walter Grieb, 83, who has terminal cancer with only six months to live, has been playing dominoes in La Russell since around 1960 and still plays when his health permits him to.

NOPPADOL PAOTHONG/The Chart

Casual talk, game unite friends



Perry Cochran (left), 88, strategically places his domino while Richard Chrisman, 70, patiently waits for his turn.

By NOPPADOL PAOTHONG
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

La Russell, Mo., population only 114, has not been heard of by many people. This small community has not only a farming lifestyle, but also a bond and long relationship between friends.

A group of retired people, mostly who were born and raised in this town, share a special hobby — dominoes. They play every day from early in the morning until late afternoon or during inclement weather.

"We started to play dominoes as early as 1960," said Walter Greet, an 83-year-old retired farmer.

The game starts with four players and usually takes 15 minutes, although it also depends on the patience of the players.

Dominoes is not the only thing that brings them here. During the game, the players have casual talk and like to play jokes on each other.

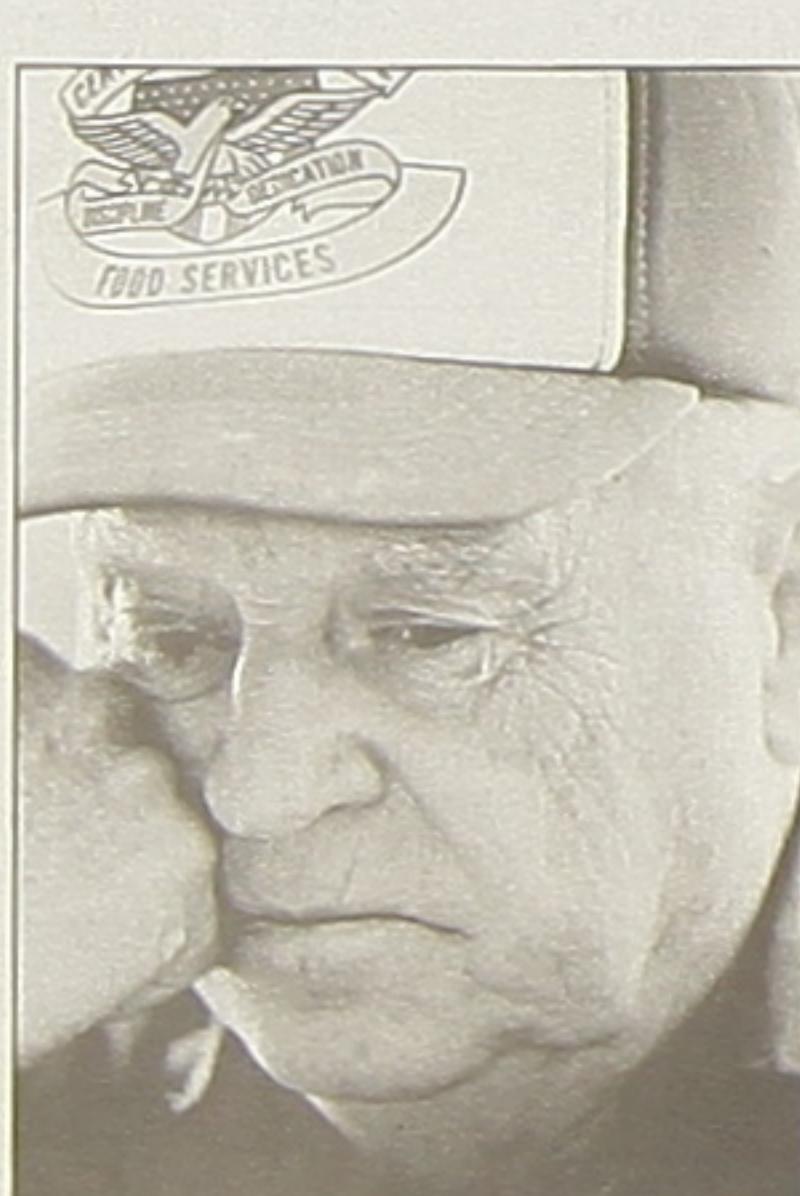
"Mostly, we are here because of friendship and talk. We take care of the politics, war, and everything," said Bud Henson, a Vietnam War veteran.

Perry Cochran, 88, and the second-oldest person in La Russell, said he has been playing dominoes since he was 40. He once played "pitch horseshoes," but now can't pitch very well so went back and started to play dominoes again.

The building used as their permanent place to gather during the day was once the farm supply store, owned by Freddy Whitehead. The supply business moved across the street 12 years ago.

"These men were our customers before they retired," he said. "They came here and used this place in 1987 to play dominoes, and we can't get rid of them."

With a little monetary donation from the



Frank Langston, a 70-year old World War II veteran contemplates his next move. Langston was a B-17 tail gunner.

group, Whitehead and his wife, Terri, provide not only a place for the group to gather but also some snacks, coffee, and soft drinks as well.

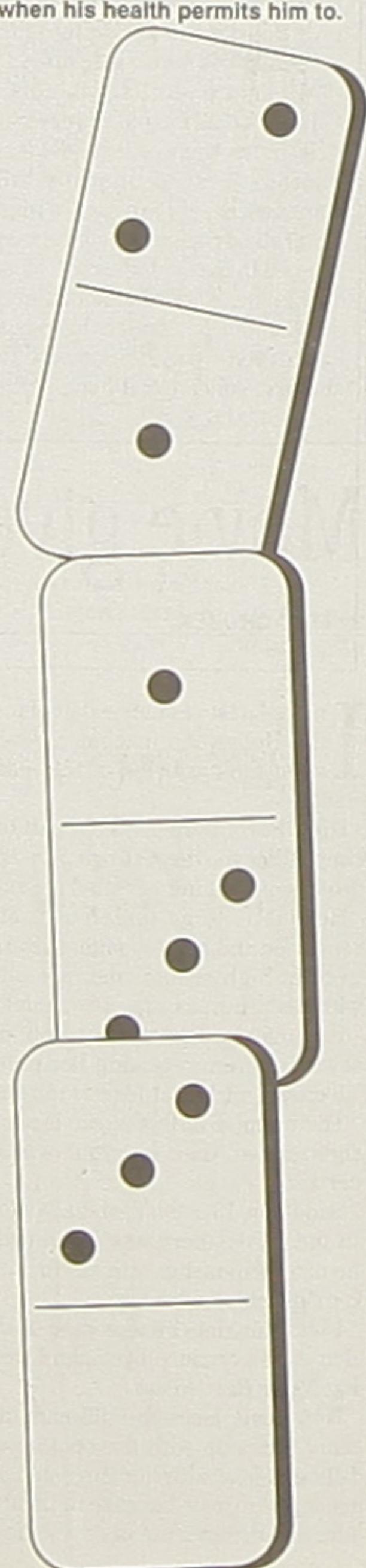
"First I put the sign up, 'Temporary Coffee Shop,' so these men could have a place to stay during the day and play dominoes, but it turned out to be a permanent place for them," Terri Whitehead said.

Although in the game they are all competitors, as friends they look out for one another's health as they grow older.

"I am old, but I am young at heart because I try to think young, and that keeps me healthy," Cochran said. □



Charles Langston (left), 67, gathers with his friend Perry Cochran to talk and catch a quick game.

NOPPADOL PAOTHONG
The Chart

Millennium craze target of course

By JEFF BILLINGTON
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

For years, publications such as the *The National Enquirer* and *The Sun* have been prophesizing the doom that will accompany the new millennium.

As it grows nearer, more and more people seem to be taking the words of these predictions to heart.

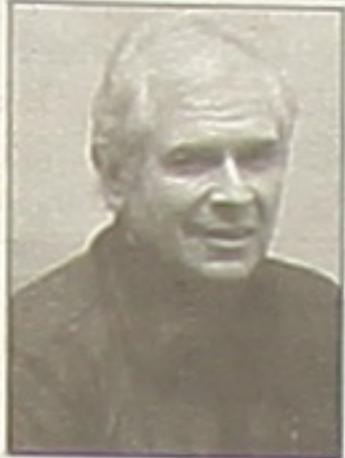
In accordance with this unique time in human history, Dr. Conrad Gubera, professor of sociology, has designed a new sociology course titled Millennium Madness. The course will be offered at 11 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays next fall.

"What an opportunity — it only comes around once in a 1,000 years — and for us not to have a course on the millennium," he said. "I've been talking about the millennium all my teaching career."

Gubera said with all the changes in the United States and the world at this time, it makes the subject even more exciting.

"All of the sudden it's upon us and it's coinciding with these great sweeping changes in this country, industrialism to post-industrialism, world consciousness, and global community," Gubera said. "Kosovo is just 15 hours away by a bomb."

Dr. Erik Bitterbaum, vice president for academic affairs, agrees the course is an exciting one



Dr. Conrad Gubera
Professor of sociology

time addition to the curriculum.

"This is a timely class that Dr. Gubera's putting together," he said. "It looks very interesting; I would encourage people to take it."

Gubera said with all of these changes going on simultaneously with the approach of the 21st century, many people are getting caught up in the craze caused by the millennium.

"There are people who are frightened, scared, who will die as soon as give themselves up," Gubera said. "And die happy thinking themselves saved."

"The paradoxes here are just unequalled, to believe like those Heaven's Gate folks — to really believe and go peacefully to your death, who could want it better?"

Gubera said the course will examine how, in a supposedly modern world, beliefs like this are founded and how they parallel past events.

"How does a thing like this happen in a collective behavior network, and much less, people believe it?" he asked. "What kind of obsessive cult people are these? We have stuff from 1,000 years ago where people acted just as crazy."

Gubera said the Bible and religion, and how both have been influential on this era of history, will also be examined. The course will look at how time is measured and its degree of accuracy.

"People that don't count time the way we do, will they be affected, like the Arabs, the Chinese?" he asked.

Gubera has discussed the course with Dr. Betsy Griffin, psychology department head, in order to include some of the psychological effects of the millennium.

"This goes along with it because there will be a major thrust which will deal with defining mental illness and madness, and then two or

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What an opportunity — it only comes around once in a 1,000 years — and for us not to have a course on the millennium.

I've been talking about the millennium all my teaching career.

Dr. Conrad Gubera
Professor of sociology

99

three conditions that may be associated with this," Gubera said.

Gubera began to look into the idea of this type of a class at the beginning of this year. He believes the interest in the subject matter will make it an enlightening course to take.

"People are interested in this kind of stuff," Gubera said.

"I'm interested in it, and we only have one time to do it." □

Arias said the U.S. should be not only an economic and military superpower but also a moral superpower. He said the U.S. is putting profits before principles.

"What would the founding fathers say?" Arias asked.

He continued his attack on U.S. policy, saying Latin Americans need trade, not aid, and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) should be expanded to include the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Arias said U.S. labor unions are wrong in their belief that free trade endangers domestic employment. However, he said it was OK for the American labor movement to support unionization in developing countries.

Arias ended his presentation with a challenge.

"Why can't we be more compassionate?" he asked. "Why can't we be more humane?"

College President Julio Leon kicked off the program with an explanation of Missouri Southern's international mission.

Tulsa World senior editor Alex Adwan served as moderator, and Dr. Conrad Gubera, professor of sociology, delivered a remembrance of Dr. Harry and Berniece Gockel.

Leon announced the 2000 symposium and the fall 2000 semester would be dedicated to the future and potential of the United States in the 21st century. □

GIVE PEACE A CHANCE



NOPPADOL PAOTHONG/The Chart

Dr. Oscar Arias, featured speaker at the 1999 Henry and Berniece Gockel International Symposium, speaks to members of the International Media Seminar class Monday afternoon. Arias shared his views on the Kosovo conflict, military spending, and American foreign policy with the class.

BOXING: Perseverance pays off with big wins for Agee after rough start in sport

From Page 1

said the experience was good for her. Neal said Agee has a lot of character.

"When you lose a bout, it's humiliating," Neal said.

He said he will come to practice and Agee will be sparring with a bloody nose and blood running down her arm.

"Guys don't cut her any slack," he said. "When she fights a woman, she says 'She hits like a girl'."

The perseverance has paid off. Agee has lost only once this year.

Agee won the Missouri Golden Gloves Association title and will go to the national championship competition in Atlanta.

Neal complimented Agee's muscle development.

"She has an awful lot of strength," he said, "a heck of a punch."

Neal said she has continued to improve her footwork and defense. She now needs to work on taking the offensive.

"She needs to settle down in the ring and hit those hard punches she can," Neal said.

Agee practices two and a half hours a night four times a week.

"I come early and stay late," she said.

Agee said she will continue boxing as long as it is fun. However, her hobby is a bit of a hindrance on the social scene.

"I talk to a guy, we start to flirt, and then they find out I box."

Neal, the Nevada city manager, started the club in 1995. He was a career Air Force officer and started boxing clubs in four towns throughout the country.

The Nevada club has members ranging in age from 9 to 19. Eleven youth travel to competitions with the club. Their next dual will be April 30 in St. Louis.

"Our kids do pretty well," Neal said. "About half the time I'm not here and they teach themselves."

The club boasts national champions in the boys' 14-15 and 15-16 divisions. There are two other girls in the club.

Women's boxing is not an Olympic sport, but there are national competitions.

66

She needs to settle down in the ring and hit those hard punches she can.

Wayne Neal
Boxing coach

GOCKEL: Arias addresses Kosovo

From Page 1

the nationality of occupying troops in Kosovo after the cessation of hostilities.

"Maybe the Albanians should have gotten to choose whether they were slaughtered or not," she said.

Arias recognized his view was not popular.

"I'm going to share with you a minority view on what's going on in Yugoslavia and how to end the conflict," he said.

Arias opposes the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) leading the attack. Only 15 percent of the world's population is represented by NATO.

"I don't like the U.N. to be replaced by NATO," he said. "NATO is a military organization representing a small group of industrial nations. It does not represent the world."

Arias said if the United Nations is ineffective, it should be reorganized — not ignored.

"It is the only world organization that has been created for the prevention of conflict," he said.

Arias said the U.S. is behaving like the Roman Empire.

"The truth of it is, the U.S. doesn't want to be challenged," he said. "You think you can tell the rest of the world how to behave. Just because Marxism-Leninism is dead doesn't mean democracy has triumphed."

learning foreign languages," Griffin said. "Our past experiences with block classes have been positive. Students have a better retention with these selected courses that target freshmen."

Griffin says block seven will be reserved for students with weaker academic skills.

Summary data for learning communities indicate that the grade-point averages for first-time freshmen have been higher for those students enrolled in block classes.

Results for fall 1995 show the GPAs for block students were 2.70. Average GPAs for the control group, who were not enrolled in the block classes, was 2.62. In the fall of 1996, the block group's GPA was 2.70. The control group average was 2.44.

The latest indicators show an increase in the control group. Spring 1998 indicated the block group GPA was 2.70, and the control group 2.69.

Leon believes the addition of the foreign languages, combined with the travel opportunities, will encourage students in the block classes to do even better in their studies.

"The study abroad program will provide incentives for students to learn more about cultures and foreign languages," he said. □

FUNDING: Building will ease department crowding

From Page 1

returned before the end of the fiscal year (June 30), must still go through both the Senate and House, but Leon thinks the fact it is riding on a governor's recommendation looks good for the funding to come through.

"That means if the House and Senate go along with it, then he (Gov. Mel Carnahan) will sign it and not veto it," Leon said.

The proposed building would go in behind Hearnes Hall, Leon said, to the north of Robert Ellis Young Gymnasium.

It may house the nursing, dental hygiene, radiologic technology, respiratory therapy, and medical technology programs.

"These are potential," Leon said. "The space may not accommodate all of these disciplines."

Another department the College is hoping to relocate to the new building is the psychology department.

"When we do that, the school of education's going to have more space, which they need badly, so it's kind of a way of killing two birds with one stone," Leon said. □

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Department announces promotions for officers

St. John's Regional Medical Center is offering an educational class titled "Lifestyles Weight Management Program." This class will be held from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. on eight consecutive Wednesdays.

Class dates are April 28, May 5, 12, 19, and 26. The classes will be held at the Olympic Fitness Center, 22nd and Connecticut. These classes offer specific information on weight management topics including shopping tips, goal setting, label reading, eating out, portion sizes, and low-fat cooking.

The eight-week course emphasizes sensible weight reduction by looking at lifestyle patterns to identify necessary changes for healthy living. The two-month program is open to the public. Registration for the course is \$160. For more information, interested persons may call 1-888-548-7448 or 659-6488. □

Children's conference highlights abuse victims

Children's Miracle Network and Children's Center of Southwest Missouri, Child Advocacy Council, and the Jasper and Newton County Family Violence Council have planned a conference highlighting April's Child Abuse Awareness month.

"Through They Eyes of a Child" is a day-long conference presented by Dave Pelzer, author and survivor of child abuse. The conference is from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 28 at Missouri Southern in Webster Hall auditorium.

Strategies for action will be provided on the issue of child abuse prevention. Focus will be given to the significance between an "adaptive resilient child" rather than a "pitiful, helpless victim."

The conference is open to the general public and professionals who work with children.

Full registration with lunch is \$35. Registration forms and further information regarding this conference may be obtained by calling the Children's Center at 623-2292. □

Job fair provides work opportunities for Joplin

A job fair for the Joplin area will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday at Joplin Memorial Hall, 212 W. Eighth St.

The theme will be "Opportunities for Tomorrow...Discovering the Possibilities Today." The event is sponsored by the Coalition for Employment Opportunities. More than 25 employers from the region will be available to discuss job opportunities with prospective employees.

The fair is free and open to the public. For more information, interested persons may call the Economic Security Corporation at 781-0352. □

Missouri Southern offers investing workshops

Investing opportunities for small businesses will be covered in a workshop offered by Missouri Southern's school of business and the Small Business Development Center.

The workshop will be from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday in Matthews Hall Room 109. The purpose of this workshop is to show the novice investor how to use the Morningstar rating service for mutual funds. Dr. Richard LaNear, J.R. Kuhn Distinguished Professor of Finance, will teach this workshop. Payment is \$35 in advance and \$45 at the door. □

Hospice foundation hosts annual teleconference

The southwest Missouri branch of Hospice will hold the sixth annual Hospice Foundation of America Bereavement Teleconference at 12:30 p.m. Wednesday.

The teleconference, "Loving with Grief: At Work, At School, At Worship," will be moderated by Cokie Roberts and will be shown at Good News Production International, 2111 N. Main St.

The program is free and will offer practical suggestions for companies assisting grieving employees, and is intended for both professional and lay people. □

JOPLIN ROTARY

Local charities receive several contributions

By PHYLLIS DETAR
STAFF WRITER

Several local charities soon will benefit from the Joplin Rotary Community Fund, Inc.

At the Monday meeting, the board voted to dispense a total of \$4,943 for the second half of the 1998-99 fiscal year.

Joplin Family Y will receive \$1,000 to develop office space for Big Brothers, Big Sisters and the Young Life organizations in its building; the Missouri Southern International Piano Competition, \$500; Ronald McDonald House, \$346; Joplin Historical and Mineral Museum, \$576; Community

Service Center, \$1,000; Children's Center, \$471; Spiva Center for the Arts, \$500; and the Joplin High School Band Boosters, \$550.

The organization contributed \$5,072 to 11 charities from July through December 1998.

The Joplin Rotary Community Fund, Inc., was started in the mid 1980s.

The purpose of the corporation was to acquire a not-for-profit tax status so that people who contributed to charities through the club could declare their contributions, said John Cragin, retired professor and computer science department head at Missouri Southern.

Recently, Joplin Rotary formed a

Community Endowment, an account owned by the Community Fund Corporation.

"It seemed to me that this corporation should protect its investment program so that we could do significant charitable acts on a continuing basis with the principal protected," Cragin said.

The interest and dividends from the endowment will supply funds to be distributed by the corporation. The principal will remain intact.

In the fall of 1998, the organization approved two goals: a short term of two years to have a principal of \$200,000 protected; and 10 years later, a total of \$2 million to be protected.

"This is a long-range project and

will require continuous money raising," he said.

A third goal, once the investment began to produce, was to encourage local charities to form their own endowments for long-range income.

The Rotary Club Board also functions as the board for the corporation fund.

"We meet [as the corporate board] twice a year to dispense funds to community groups that have asked for our help," said Jane Cage, president-elect. "Rotary's motto is 'Service above self.' This is one way we can accomplish that."

Cragin was given the authority to "take any legal means to raise money" to finance the plan, he said.

In December, he held a fund-raiser that netted almost \$3,000 after the club board matched contributions from the members.

At a recent meeting, Cragin created a little sale that netted money for the fund and fun for the members. He acquired 10 large green promotion cups from Freeman Health System, inserted a donut in each, and called them "Gary Cups" after Gary Duncan, Freeman's CEO. They sold for \$10 each.

Cragin has contacted 10 foundations to contribute to the Rotary Endowment Fund and is waiting to hear from them. Community groups wanting assistance must follow a request procedure and have a Rotarian to sponsor them. □

CARNIVAL FUN



Sathe Butler, 4, Webb City, rides the carousel Tuesday at Evan's United Shows Carnival at Joplin's Memorial Hall. The carnival will be in town through Sunday.

NOPPADOL PAOTHONG/The Chart

JOPLIN MUSEUM COMPLEX

Historic committee comes to Joplin

By MARLA HINKLE
CITY NEWS EDITOR

The Missouri Alliance for Historic Preservation (MAHP) will host the annual Missouri Statewide Preservation Conference today and Saturday in Joplin.

The MAHP is Missouri's only statewide not-for-profit organization dedicated to the promotion and coordination of historic preservation. The organization was founded in 1976 as the Missouri Heritage Trust. This annual event is partially funded by a Historic Preservation Fund grant for the Missouri

Department of Natural Resources' Historic Preservation Program and the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior.

A number of events highlighting the historic sights in Joplin are planned as well as various block sessions and a keynote speaker.

Brad Belk, director of the Joplin Museum Complex and chairman of the Missouri Alliance for Historic Preservation, said the event will bring awareness about the topic of preservation.

"The conference is educational in nature," he said. "People will

have the opportunity to tour various properties that are considered historical sites in Joplin."

The tour properties include the Scottish Rite Cathedral, a classic Greek and Italian Renaissance-style building completed in 1923 and named to the National Register of Historic Places in 1990; the five-story Newman Building, erected in 1910, that has recently undergone a multi-million dollar rehabilitation; the Fox Theater, a 1929 Spanish Revival movie theater that now serves as a church; the Union Depot, built in 1911, that is currently empty and awaiting reuse; and Cox Cemetery, used

between 1857 and 1938, that recently was restored and won the 1998 MAHP McReynolds Award.

Registration, opening reception, and MAHP awards are from 6 to 9 p.m. today at the Joplin Museum Complex in Schifferdecker Park. The keynote speaker, Nore Winter, will begin his address at 8:45 a.m.

Alisa Youngren, secretary of the historic preservation committee, is looking forward to the cultural aspect of the event.

"The conference will promote cultural tourism in Missouri," she said. □

GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER NATIONAL MONUMENT

Earth Day celebrations spring forward

Missouri parks will host local marches

By CALE RITTER
STAFF WRITER

Local parks are hosting activities this weekend for the upcoming Earth Day.

The area's only national park, George Washington Carver National Monument, is hosting a March for Parks Saturday. March for Parks is the nation's largest walking event.

"We encourage obtaining a pledge sheet and participating in the walk," said Lana Henry, education specialist at Carver National Monument. The four distances to choose from are 1.5

miles, 5K, 10K, and 10 miles. Proceeds benefit the park to enhance the education program.

"If we don't participate in activities at this park in every way we can, we could lose it in the future," said Judy Stiger, vice president of the George W. Carver Birthplace District Association. "We would not want to lose all of the educational benefits."

The sub-theme for the day is agricultural products. Activities include booths for sheep shearing, spinning wool and weaving demonstrations, goat milking and making goat cheese, a petting zoo provided by the Diamond FFA, Dutch oven cooking, Missouri Aqua Culture Association, Southwest Mobile

Dairy Museum, Smokey Bear, llamas' versatility in agriculture and recreation, Missouri Agribility will display farm safety and disability awareness, soil conservation, wood carving, and Aunt Lulu and her Environmental Friends. The Harry S. Truman Coordinating Council will provide information about recycling.

Stiger said there will be door prizes, a prize for the most money raised, and the most money raised by a family.

A kick-off rally begins at 9 a.m. and the day will conclude at 4 p.m. The Neosho Conservation Department is hosting a dogwood festival at the Fort Crowder Conservation Area on Sunday.

Gary Smith, district forester, said the festival, which ties in with Neosho's festival, will count as its Earth Day activity.

The Conservation Department will be giving away dogwoods and white pines. It has 500 of each, and availability is first-come, first-serve.

"The reality is, if you really think about your environment you live in, every day should be Earth Day, and not just once a year," Smith said. "Decisions people make daily affect resources throughout the Earth. One day a year is not really sufficient."

For more information, interested persons may call the Carver National Monument at 417-325-4151. □

THOMAS JEFFERSON SCHOOL

Scholarship funds allow opportunity

Need-based scholarships provide student incentive

By CALE RITTER
STAFF WRITER

Thomas Jefferson Independent Day School now offers scholarships to its students.

Currently there are eight recipients of the Kemper Scholarship, a need-based scholarship.

Dr. Leonard Kupersmith, headmaster, said students receive \$35,000 the first year, \$30,000 the second, and \$10,000 the third.

Thomas Jefferson currently recognizes 15 students as scholars of the Monticello Scholarship Fund from grades one through 12.

"We received an anonymous contribution of \$1 million to be spread over 10 years," Kupersmith said.

Monticello is a merit- and need-based scholarship. Students must maintain a "B" or better in each core subject.

The last two are endowed by former Congressman Mel Hancock.

Thomas Jefferson uses only the interest money.

"One of the appeals of the Hancock Award, from my point of view, is that it establishes a prototype for giving of the school," Kupersmith said.

Hancock plans to be at the first awards ceremony, which will be at the annual Honors Day ceremony on Wednesday, May 5.

The Freedom Award goes to one rising junior and one rising senior based on academic merit, school spirit and citizenship, demonstrated interest in conservative politics, and a meritorious essay addressing the proper role of government in a free society.

Each covers one-half tuition. Current tuition for juniors and seniors is \$7,025.

Kirsten Clary, director of admissions, said the College Award goes to a graduating senior with similar qualities as the Freedom Award.

To receive the \$1,000 award, the student must attend a private college or university," she said.

Thomas Jefferson does not use state funds such as other private schools.

"We just choose to steer clear of those strings attached to state-funded scholarships," Kupersmith said.

"They are either visible or covert, but there are always strings."

Clary said approximately 20 percent of the student body receives some form of financial assistance. Thomas Jefferson opened in 1993 with 185 students. Today there are 280.

"I think we are seeing a growing, vigorous body of supporters of the school," Kupersmith said. "The school is growing very quickly."

Thomas Jefferson puts much emphasis on its mission statement which affirms the school's dedication to academic excellence.

The statement also encourages appreciation in all areas of education and promotes responsible, challenged students.

"Scholarship opportunities are critical to offer education to a wide variety of students," Clary said. □

Friday, April 16, 1999

STATE LEGISLATURE

Page 11

"We feel that as a culmination toward the end of their internship, this gives them a very practical experience in practicing the things they've observed all semester."

Mock session gives insight to interns

By GINNY DUMOND
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Members of the State Capitol internship program had a chance last week to move from behind the scenes.

The interns participated in a "Mock Legislature" that was completely run and organized by those interning with legislators.

"We feel that as a culmination toward the end of their internship, this gives them a very practical experience in practicing the things they have observed all semester," said Rep. Mary Lou Sallee (R-Ava), intern coordinator for the Republican side. "It has provided them with the experience of drafting bills, presenting bills in committee, and presenting them on the floor."

Along with drafting their own bills and presenting them, the mock legislature went through the process of electing a speaker of the House and assigning a chaplain, along with other general appointments.

Adam Crumbliss, intern for Rep. Gary Burton (R-Joplin), was elected to the speaker position, and was then responsible for overseeing the hearing of bills and maintaining order.

"What we tried to do with the agenda was mix it between

serious and light-hearted issues," he said. "That way we could learn the process and also apply it to substantive issues."

During the course of their sessions, the interns voted to increase the minimum standard for teacher salaries, passed the Equal Rights Amendment, began a tax credit for Missouri students paying Missouri taxes, and allowed the Bootheel to secede from the state.

"They want to be themselves; it was more or less a big fun thing to do," Crumbliss said of the secession bill.

While the group also passed the Wet Campus Act of '99, which prohibited Missouri college campuses from declaring a dry campus, members also worked on serious issues facing the state and nation.

Kelly Anderson, senior English major at Truman State University, interns with Rep. Joan Bray's (D-St. Louis) office and was the author of two of the session's more controversial bills. The first established the Equal Rights Amendment in Missouri, and the second dealt with adoption of children by same-sex couples, an issue Crumbliss said was never resolved but was hotly debated.

"I wanted people to talk about these issues," Anderson said. "They've affected other generations, but they're especially important to our generation because we're sort of known as

the liberal/progressive generation and I think it was a good look into the future."

Anderson came away from the mock session "encouraged." "Both of my bills were very controversial, but on both there were some very progressive comments made," she said.

Anderson adds it is always important to hear what others think about one's ideas.

"Especially the ones who believe opposite of the way you do," she said. "I think it's very important to have that kind of debate and conversation."

Another act the mock legislature took was to repeal term limits. There was more of a connection for the novice legislators once they got into the bill-passing process.

"After you get up here and see how the legislative process works, you realize we've limited terms in the wrong way," Crumbliss said. "The representatives are going to be so new that the process is going to be difficult to learn."

Sallee thinks the mock session gave students who hope to work within the legislature a good look at how it all connects.

"I think they probably learned that they can debate these contentious bills, but when it's over, each one of these individuals has their own ideas and convictions," she said. "When it's all over, they need to respect the people for being able to debate and represent their area." □

SENATE HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

Abortion bill passes from House to Senate

Partial-birth legislation meets disagreements over language, intent

By GINNY DUMOND
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Missouri's controversial partial-birth abortion legislation has been passed in the House and passed out of committee in the Senate. Now all that's left is the logistics of language and a majority vote in the Senate.

The bill that was passed out of committee was Rep. Bill Leutkenhaus' (D-Josephville) with the language of Sen. Sidney Johnson (D-Agency).

It allows for the life and health of the mother, according to Sen. Marvin Singleton (R-Seneca).

"We've eliminated all language which allows for mental anguish," Singleton said.

Rep. Gary Burton (R-Joplin) says the language change is mostly for those legislators who are concerned the bill will have the ability to eliminate all abortions.

"We think it's clear and will become even clearer once that bill passes the Senate and comes back to the House that we want to stop the partial-birth abortion problem, and hopefully that this would be a model piece of legislation that can go across the country to stop partial-birth abortions nationwide," Burton said.

Singleton says he is one who is concerned about what language the bill includes.

"Frankly, I'm concerned that it would outlaw all abortions, and I couldn't support that because I oppose abortion except in the case of

rape, incest, or where the life of the mother is at risk," Singleton said. "If it outlaws that, then it outlaws my exceptions."

"We need to narrow it so the bill can do exactly what it needs to do," he said.

Rep. Rich Chrismer (R-St. Peters) said many House members who passed the bill are against a general exception for health. Any change that is unacceptable by the House could put the bill into conference committee, and it may never be passed.

"If the language is changed in the Senate that is acceptable, we will adopt that language which will keep the bill out of conference," Chrismer said. "Realistically, if we can stop clowning around with language the Senate will pass it, and if they pass it with acceptable language we will get the majority of legislators supporting it."

"It's a slam dunk, and it shouldn't take five minutes," Chrismer added.

Even the word "health," Burton says, can be controversial.

"The health definition includes mental health, which just opens the door to any type of exclusion," he said.

"If the mother thinks being heavy during her pregnancy makes her look bad, they can construe that to be a mental health problem."

Burton also says he hopes the language issue can be settled in order to put this law into place as soon as possible.

"This is a procedure in which a baby is partially born and is actually in the delivery process with certain body parts outside the woman, and that's when the murder takes place," he said.

"We feel then that the appropriate penalty should be assessed." □

TAKIN' IT ALL IN



GINNY DUMOND/The Chart

Jerrie Rhoads, center, with her children Joshua, left, and Haley, watch a parade of horses go by from the steps of the Capitol. The parade was held Monday to honor Tom Bass, saddle horse trainer, who was inducted into the Hall of Famous Missourians.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Holidays bill addresses issues concerning state employees

By GINNY DUMOND
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

State workers who may have been sweating House Bill 1035 can probably breathe a sigh of relief.

The bill would, among other things, eliminate Lincoln's birthday, Truman's birthday, and Columbus Day from the calendar of state holidays state employees receive off.

"Honestly, this bill will probably not pass because it's not even on the House calendar right now, but the reason I went ahead and signed on is because I thought it was important to have a discussion on it," said Rep. Scott Lakin (D-Kansas City), one of the measure's co-signers.

While the bill would increase the amount of personal days, Lisa Morowitz, with the Missouri State Workers Union, says if the doors of state agencies are open, work will

continue to pile up whether an employee is on a personal day or not.

"When it's a holiday, the office is closed, period," she said. "If it's a day off, you come back to twice as much work, so turning the holidays into annual leave time is not a benefit."

Morowitz and Lakin agree on a couple of issues regarding the bill that would affect both the state and its employees.

"We need to look at how this would affect different parts of state government, and we need to be careful before we do anything," Lakin said. "They (state agencies) can't always offer the highest salary, but one of the selling points is that they get extra days off."

Morowitz said the problems state workers face far outweigh the inconvenience of being closed for the three holidays.

"The work of the state gets done, and state

salaries are abominable," she said. "There are 1,400 workers who are full-time workers and on public assistance. The holidays are one of the few recruiting tools we have."

Lakin said there needs to be progress made on this issue for both state citizens and workers.

"There's a balance we need to try to work out between convenience for taxpayers in the state and fairness to workers in the state," he said.

Morowitz thinks any imposition by the legislature is only an inconvenience.

"There is nothing broken, so don't fix it," she said. "We're not in a position where we feel we need to give anything back."

"I think something that may enter into it is that we want to make a change in these state holidays, but we also recognize the need to better support and enforce some of the staffing." □

"There's a balance we need to try to work out between convenience for taxpayers in the state and fairness to workers in the state."

Rep. Scott Lakin
(D-Kansas City)

HIGHER EDUCATION NEWS BRIEFS

Southwestern Bell gives \$200,000 to Southeast

The Southwestern Bell Foundation has announced a \$200,000 grant award to the Southeast Missouri State University to enhance technical education over a broad area on the campus.

The four-year pledge to the university's "125 Years — Prologue to the 21st Century" campaign will fund an instructional television classroom in Southeast's new Otto and Della Seabaugh Polytechnic Building. The classroom and its state-of-the-art equipment will be used to extend technical education and training across much of eastern, including St. Louis Community College at Florissant Valley.

The \$7 million, 60,000-square-foot Polytechnic Building will be built on the North campus and house the university's department of industrial technology.

"Southeast has been selected by the CBHE as one of only three baccalaureate institutions in Missouri to implement an essential statewide plan for coordinated technical education programs, as well as specialized training and support for Missouri's and our region's high performance companies," said Dr. Dale Nitzschke, Southeast president.

"We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Southwestern Bell for its commitment to supporting our enhanced mission and paving the way for Southeast to expand dramatically its industrial and engineering technology outreach programs and facilities." □

Demand for teachers highest in 13 years

The demand for teachers in Missouri is the highest it has been in 13 years. In addition, the number of teaching positions still vacant at the beginning of the school year is at a 13-year high. Shortages remain in special education, counseling, principals, librarians, mathematics, and the sciences.

These are some of the findings of "Teacher Supply and Demand in Missouri 1998-99," a study conducted annually since 1970 by Southwest Missouri State University. The data reflect information gathered from superintendents from 481 of 524 school districts in Missouri.

Geographic location and family ties are the most important factors influencing a prospective teacher's decision to make application to a school district, according to the report. Teachers tend to want to return home or to an area familiar to them to teach. Other important considerations are salary and benefits, class size, parent/community support, and available technologies.

Despite a record number of fully certified hires, 327 positions were left vacant, 604 personnel not fully certified were hired, and 133 positions were filled with substitutes. In addition, 130 positions filled included assignment outside the educator's area of certification. □

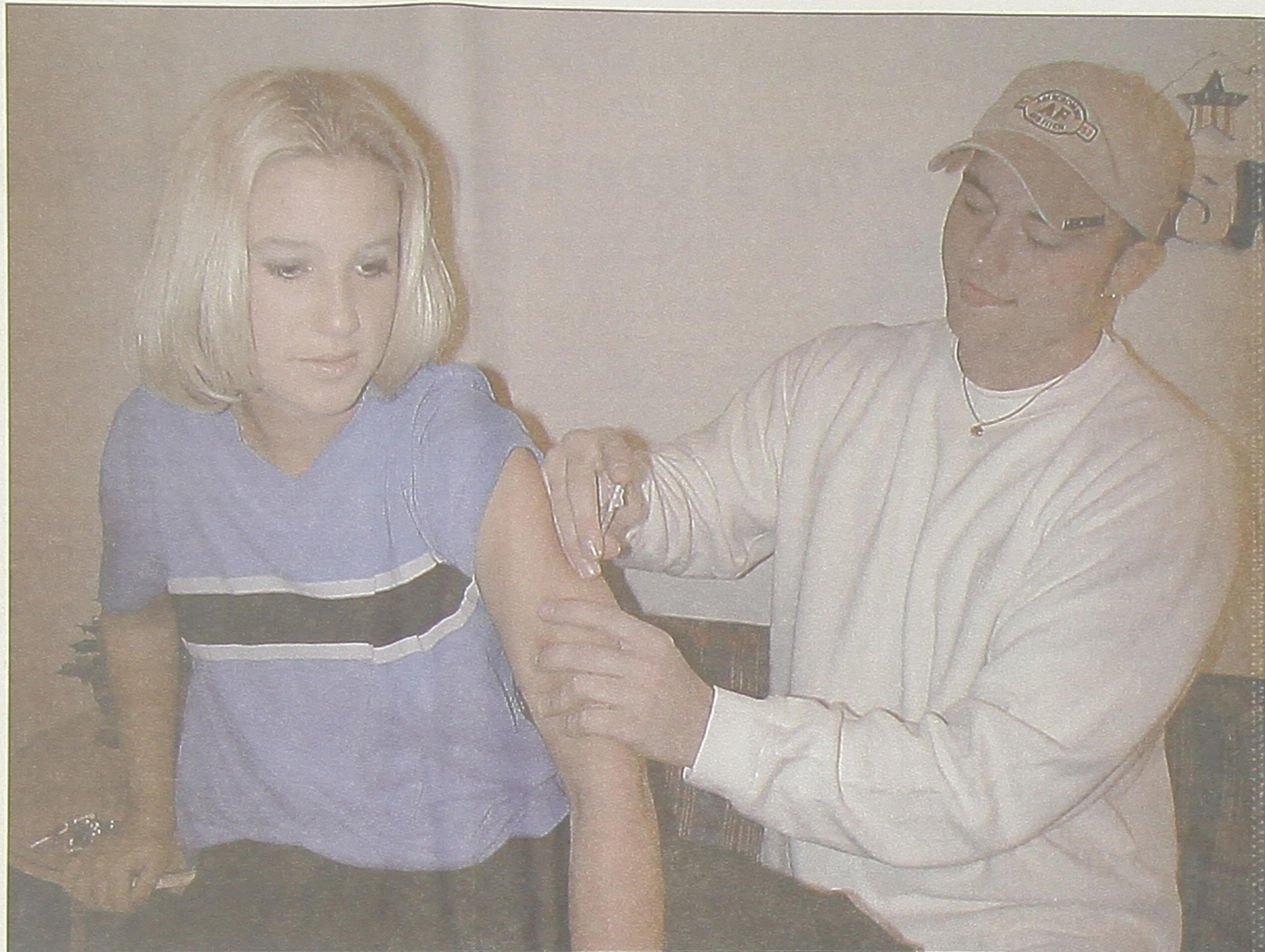
Northwest to reopen student union in phases

Northwest Missouri State University will partially reopen its J.W. Jones Student Union in August.

The student union will reopen in phases starting with the first floor. It will open at the beginning of the fall trimester and will house the new food court.

Some of the new offices on the second floor will reopen in January 2000, leaving the remainder of the second floor and the entire third floor to be completed by August 2000.

Randy Sharp, projects manager, said students and faculty have been patient with the construction efforts but are also eager to see the opening of the new food court. □

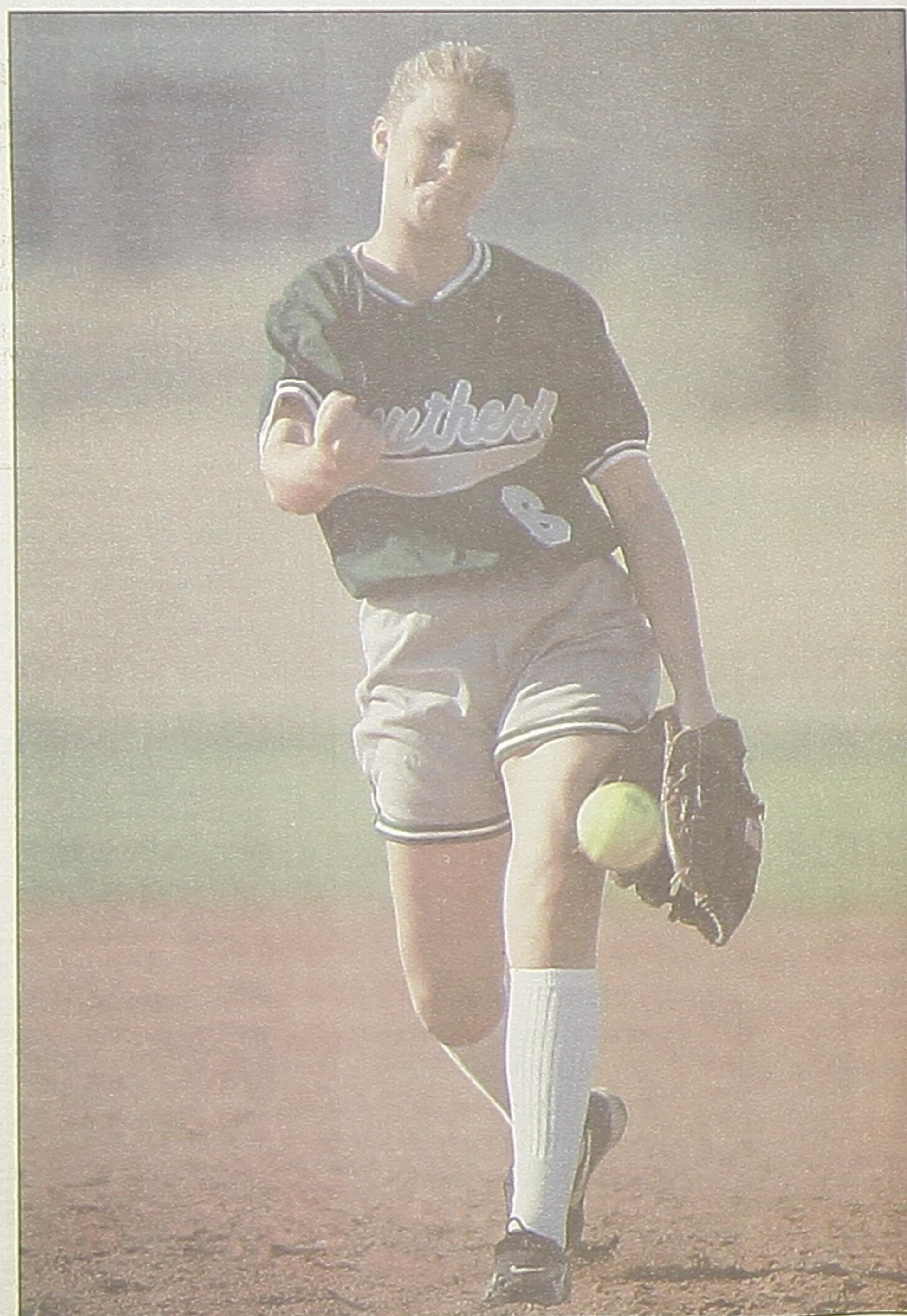


Junior Dan Mullins, Hargis' boyfriend, gives her an insulin shot on Wednesday night at her home in Joplin. Hargis, who has a fear of needles, insists on having someone else give her the shot because "she can't handle it."

NOPPADOL PAOTHONG
The Chart

Hargis: ...it's just a little setback

Pitcher determined to regain edge while struggling with diabetes



FILE PHOTO
After pitching a shutout on Tuesday against Southwest Baptist University, Hargis moved closer to her goal of an Earned run average under 1.00. Last season she led the MIAA in ERA.

BY ANDRE L. SMITH
SPORTS/DESIGN EDITOR

Last year at this time, sophomore Brittany Hargis led the MIAA in earned run average. She was on her way to one of the best pitching performances in Missouri Southern's history in the conference tournament.

Her rise was working. Hardly anyone could hit her fastball. She was living out a freshman's dream — to start her pitching career as one of the best. By the end of the season, she had led her team to the conference tournament, gathered first-team all-MIAA honors, and was named MIAA Freshman of the Year.

However, things began to change during the fall semester. She was noticeably losing weight, her moods began to swing, and she became tired after very little activity.

"I had lost 25 pounds in less than two months, but I ate all of the time," Hargis said. "I can remember at one point eating three candy bars within five minutes. There were times I'd have to sit and rest after I hadn't really done anything."

On Dec. 11, Hargis visited the campus nurse because her mother thought she should get her blood levels checked. After a weekend of waiting, Hargis' test results revealed that she was a diabetic.

"I didn't really know what it was," she said.

She would find out quickly, however. Hargis' mother, Lou Ann Jenkins, was first to be notified and said she was not surprised when hearing of her daughter's test results.

"We suspected that it was diabetes but we wanted to be sure," she said. "Diabetes is one of those things that you know people get but it's different when it's your own child."

Her blood sugar levels dangerously lurked in the mid 500s, and she was unable to drive to her home in Broken Arrow, Okla. She was picked up and taken to a hospital in Broken Arrow, where she

was admitted. When her levels were taken by the nurse at the hospital, Hargis became a little afraid.

"The nurse took my blood sugar and told me she thought she had messed up because it was so high," she said. "She took it again, and it read 604 for the second time in a row. She said she was surprised that I was still alive."

Besides the obvious consequences (not drinking carbonated beverages and eating foods high in sugar), Hargis wondered if she would be able to play softball again.

"They told me that as long as my blood sugar levels weren't too low or too high that I should be fine to play," she said. "I miss drinking my Mountain Dew, and it made me mad that I couldn't eat my chocolate cake for Christmas."

Southern head coach Pat Lipira breathed a sigh of relief upon hearing the news.

"There were some really scary moments in the beginning," Lipira said. "I was just hoping that she would be all right."

After she began treatment and was released from the hospital, Hargis began to notice a change right way. She still had one problem, however.

"I cannot stand needles," she said as she quivered at the thought of a needle penetrating her skin. "That's why I waited to get my levels checked. I couldn't handle having a needle in me."

Hargis began to add weight and proceeded to prepare for the upcoming softball season. Most of her outings were good ones, but there were bad days. Sometimes her blood sugar would get so low that it affected her senses.

"Sometimes I get to the point where I can't even talk," she said. "I start to shake and I can't see. I've had times when I've been at practice and it's been high, and then there are times when it's really low."

On opening day of softball season, the Lady Lions traveled to Fayetteville, Ark., to face the University of Arkansas. Hargis pitched a three-hitter and led the

Lady Lions to a 2-1 win over the nationally ranked Lady Razorbacks.

She went 2-3 in her next five starts and felt as though she was getting a little stronger as the season progressed. On March 31, in an away game at Evangel University, Hargis "didn't feel to well" when she arrived back in Joplin.

"I had the most excruciating headache I have ever had and I couldn't see," Hargis said. "My blood sugar levels were normal, though."

Hargis called her boyfriend, Dan Mullins, who took her to the hospital. Hargis underwent several tests and said it was a "rock bottom" experience for her.

"At first they told me it could be an inner ear infection, but I didn't think it would make me that sick," Hargis said. "Then they did a spinal tap because they thought it was viral meningitis. That was the worst pain I've had in my life."

Like any normal 19-year-old, Hargis thought about leaving school several times. Being under the care of her mother seemed to be an unbeatable gesture.

"I just wanted to be where my mom could take care of me," Hargis said.

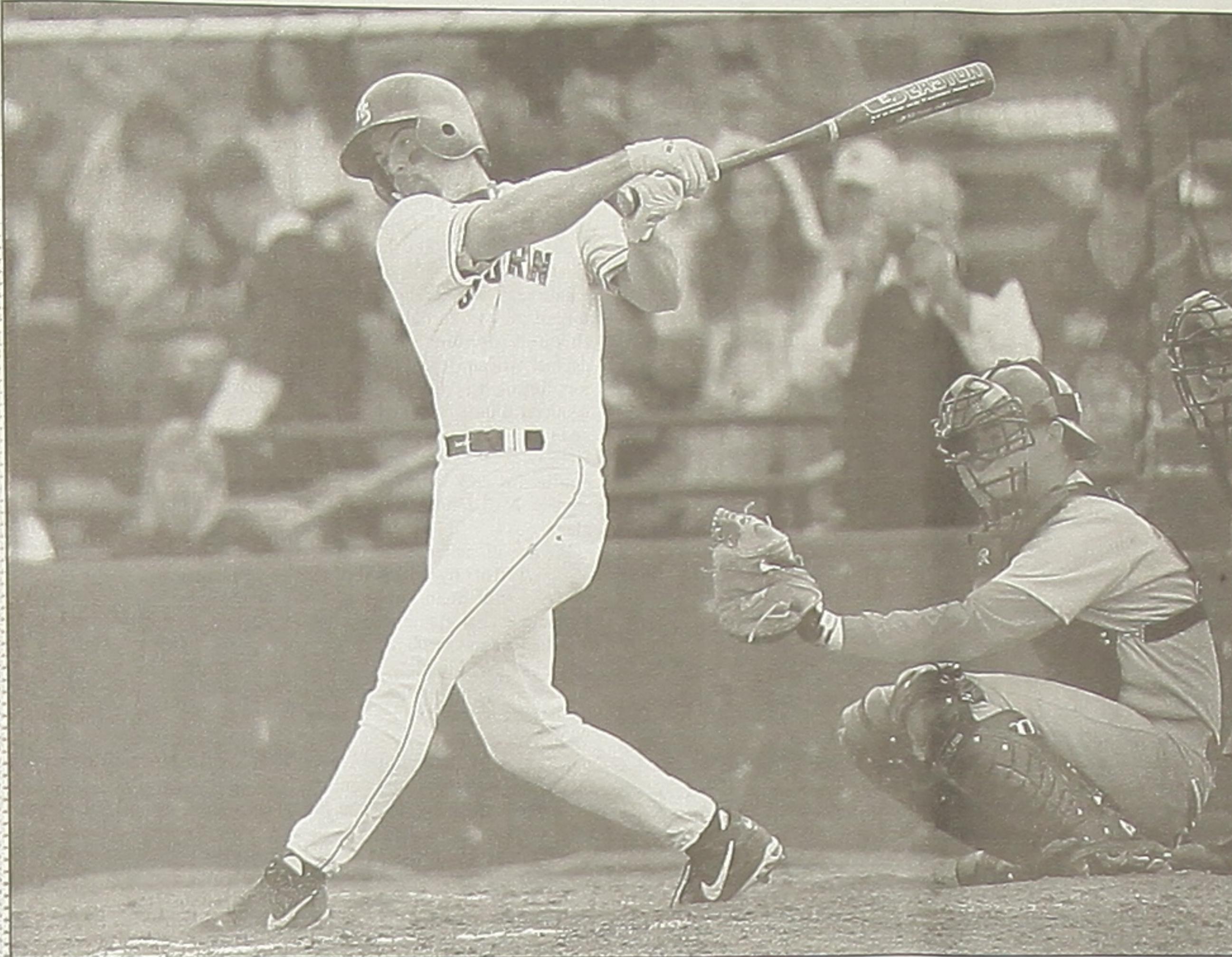
She was not about to give up, however. She wanted to do what made her happiest — compete on the softball field. If she had allowed diabetes to beat her, Hargis said she would have been a quitter.

"At the point that I had the spinal tap, I realized that things could only get better," she said. "If you have diabetes, it's not the end of the world. It shouldn't change your life because it's just a little setback."

Softball season is far from over, and Hargis' shutout of Southwest Baptist on Tuesday proved that she still continues to work hard. Her rise is working and her fastball still poses problems for opponents.

Hargis is still determined to get her ERA under 1.00.

"After I'm done playing, I'm going to have to coach somewhere," she said. "Softball is part of my life, and I'm not ready to give that up yet."



Mike Creekmore, sophomore left fielder, takes a swing against Truman State on April 2. The Lion's have dropped six straight games including two against Truman State.

Southern drops to last place in standings

By JEFF WELLS
MANAGING EDITOR

Three losses to Washburn University last weekend dropped Missouri Southern (9-27) to the bottom of MIAA standings. The Lions' conference record is now 3-11. League-leading Central Missouri State (31-6, 13-1 MIAA) will visit Joe Becker Stadium for a doubleheader Saturday and another game Sunday. Play will start at 1 p.m. both days. Southern head coach Warren Turner said his team cannot be dismissed.

"When you play baseball, anyone can win any game," he said. "Baseball is a funny game."

Errors and walks plagued the Lions against

Washburn, although Turner said the Ichabods earned the victories.

"They have a nice ball club and I have to give them credit," he said.

Southern lost the first game to Washburn (21-10, 10-6 MIAA) 14-9. Junior Eric Jackson (1-3) took the loss.

The Lions outhit the Ichabods in both games Saturday, but could not capitalize on the advantage.

Southern fell 6-2 in the second game. Freshman Nick Johnson (1-3) was the losing pitcher.

Turner complimented the play of Johnson and the other underclassmen.

"This is probably the youngest team we've

had here," he said. "I think all our kids have improved."

In Sunday's game, Southern lost 16-5. Junior Jeremy Fowler's record dropped to 1-4. The Ichabods outhit the Lions 14-10. Southern committed five errors to Washburn's three.

"I was disappointed when we didn't win when we needed to this weekend," said Flave Darnell, senior designated hitter.

Southwest Baptist (18-14, 9-8 MIAA) will visit for a doubleheader at 2 p.m. Wednesday. It will be Southern's final home series this season.

Southern's road trip to the University of Missouri-Rolla, which was canceled due to weather, will not be rescheduled. □

TRACK: Teams travel to Arkansas

From Page 14

Harrison placed third in the 1500-meter, and Stephanie Wainscott placed third in the shot put and eighth in the discus.

"Stephanie has really become consistent all around for us," Vavra said. "It was rather hard on the distance runners because of how strong the wind was."

The 4x1 relay also placed third and consists of freshman Carolyn Adams, senior Tina Keller, sophomore Erin O'Dell and senior Heather Hoyle.

"They improved their time by a bit," Vavra said. "It was nice to see them run so well."

It was Southern's first time to see the competition around the United States, except for their own conference.

"We usually go to meets where there are Division I schools there," Vavra said. "It was nice to get to see the depth of the competition in our own division, and get a taste of nationals."

The Lions and Lady Lions will head to the University of Arkansas this weekend for the Tyson Invitational.

Southern is the only Division II school invited to the event.

"It will be some great competition for us," Vavra said. "Especially since we are the only D-II school there." □

SOFTBALL: Lady Lions handle Truman

From Page 14

Sophomore Elisha Bonnot pitched a shutout through the four innings, but errors in the fifth led to an SBU run.

The score remained 1-1 into extra innings, but 11 batters scored eight runs in the eighth inning to seal the win.

"We didn't really wake up until that last inning," Lipira said.

"We've been working hard to get to this point (.500), and now that we're here, we should only get better."

Wednesday's wins followed a big weekend for Southern softball.

The Lady Lions split with first-place Truman State on Sunday and swept second-place Central Missouri State Saturday.

In the first game at Lea Kungle Field, Southern suffered a crushing 5-4 defeat to the Lady Bulldogs. TSU scored a run in the top of the seventh inning to clinch the victory, but Lipira thought the game belonged to her team.

"It's one thing if a team beats you, but it's another thing when you feel like you gave someone the game," Lipira said. "The University of Central Oklahoma beat us and there were a couple of other teams that beat us, but I felt like we gave Truman State that game."

Hailey Stanley gave up the winning run and took the loss.

In the second game, Southern sailed to a 4-1 win by way of three fourth-inning runs.

Stanley and Kasey Martin knocked in runs, and two TSU errors helped the Lady Lions to three runs. Bonnot, who picked up MIAA player of the week honors with Shoemaker, gave up six hits and struck out four batters in the winning effort.

"Our pitching was all right last weekend," Lipira said. "It's good to see our returning pitchers perform well. Bonnot's pitching has been pretty consistent, and you always have a chance to win the conference when Britany is on the mound."

The Lady Lions will travel to Missouri Western to participate in its invitational this weekend. Among the competition will be UCO, whom Southern lost to earlier this season.

The Oklahomans hit three home runs off Hargis in their first meeting, and she is anxious to get another shot at them.

"I didn't do too well against them in the first game this year, but hopefully I'll get another chance," Hargis said. "There are teams in the tournament that I haven't seen play this year, and pitching will be good for my confidence." □

LIONS CLOSE OUT HOME BASEBALL SCHEDULE

APRIL 17
APRIL 18
APRIL 20

CENTRAL MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY 1 P.M.
CENTRAL MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY 1 P.M.
SOUTHWEST BAPTIST UNIVERSITY 2 P.M.

TENNIS: Conference tournament approaches for Southern

From Page 14

infection."

"I think coach Gebauer has had a big impact on how good we've been playing," said Andrews. "My freshman year we were fairly competitive, but this is far and away the

best season since I've been here. It's kind of nice to go out on a good note."

Southern will travel Saturday to Jefferson City to take on Lincoln University. Sunday they return home, picking-up matches against William Woods University

and Westminster College on the way home. The Lady Lions conclude their regular season with a make-up match against Truman State University, April 21 in Joplin. The MIAA conference tournament begins April 22 in Springfield Mo.

"Truman will be a tough conference match," Gebauer said. "They played Washburn 5-4 and we played Washburn 5-4, we need that match for conference seedings."

"We need to be playing our best tennis at this point in the season. I think we are getting to that level. With the conference tournament coming up, our goal is to earn a regional berth." □

Campus Appreciation Week

April 18-23, 1999

In Celebration Of Earth Day

Sunday, April 18

Poetry Festival – Lion's Den Southwest Corner 1st floor of Billingsly Student Center. 2-4 p.m. Featuring Area Poets from the college and community on nature poetry.

Monday, April 19

Video Showcase – Lion's Den 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Hour long programs on "Nature's Symphony." Featuring music correlated with nature scenes from Yosemite, Yellowstone, and the Grand Canyon National Parks.

Tuesday, April 20

Video Showcase – Cafeteria 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Wednesday, April 21

Lecture – 2nd floor Billingsly Student Center. 11 a.m. "Economics" by Dr. John Messick.

Thursday, April 22

Earth Day – Southwest Corner of Criminal Justice Building. 12 p.m. Awards ceremony by Auditorium 12:15 p.m.

Friday, April 23

Campus Activities Board Earth Day events

Sports Scope

Britany Hargis appreciates motherly love

It was hard enough to convince my mother to let me come to a school that was 1,000 miles away from home. It's understandable that Lou Ann Jenkins (Britany Hargis' mother) had a hard time letting her daughter go back after learning of her diabetes.

The Broken Arrow (Okla.)

High School teacher vividly remembered the call she received about her daughter.

"It was close to lunch time and, yes, it was difficult to handle," Jenkins said.

Along with diabetes comes many more responsibilities — watching what and how much you eat, watching what you drink, remembering to take insulin.

And after all of that, still going to class and doing homework. Oh, and practice falls somewhere in the mix.

To many it would not be worth the hassle. To Hargis, it is.

Perseverance is something that has not recently come to her. She's been a fighter her entire life.

"Britany has never not achieved her goals, especially in softball," Jenkins said. "If she wanted something, she went after it."

I think she'll always be like that."

Jenkins coached her daughter as a child, but being a mother is what comes first and foremost to Jenkins.

She is very aware of Hargis' love for softball and desire to get a degree, but keeping her home would have been so much easier.

"It would have taken a split second to tell her she was staying home," Jenkins said.

"It was hard letting her go back. We both were a little scared."

Nonetheless, Hargis was able to come back and compete.

And Jenkins gets to watch most of her games for Southern.

I got the privilege of taking a quick trip down memory lane with Jenkins during which she told me of her presence at all of Britany's games prior to college.

"Since I used to coach her, I yell things I think will help her throughout the game," she said.

While most would be embarrassed by that, Hargis uses the comments for motivation.

"If I don't hear her, I start to get a little down," she said. "I start to miss it because I'm so used to hearing her."

Hargis didn't hesitate to express the thankfulness that she has for her mother's support, which can help athletes and "regular students" to learn something.

Appreciate the people who helped you get where you are and let them know they made an impact on your life.

For me, those people are my family and friends, but especially my mother.

She was at many of my high school football games, rooted for me from Buffalo, N.Y., when I sat the bench for Southern, and still supports me as a sports writer.

Whether you're an athlete or a "regular student," you should remember to often recognize those who helped you get where you are. □

TENNIS

Tennis team victorious on senior day



Junior Julie Posch reaches to return a ball to an opponent from John Brown University during Tuesday's match. The Lady Lions were successful in their effort and improved to 11-3 on the season.

By RUSSELL DAKE
STAFF WRITER

Two for Tuesday. At least that was the plan for the Missouri Southern Lady Lion tennis team.

Rain and threatening lightning forced play to be halted mid-way through doubles competition against William Jewell College, but not before the Lady Lions had secured their 11th victory of the season, 7-2, over John Brown University of Siloam Springs, Ark. Southern's only losses of the day were in No.3 doubles and No.6 singles.

"We are still adjusting to the loss of Kerri Murphy with the knee injury," said head coach Linda Gebauer. "That changed our doubles line-up and the bottom of the singles ladder. I think we are making some progress in that area, but I still think we need some work on No.3 doubles."

Murphy has a partial tear of her medial collateral ligament and has been lost for the remainder of the

season. She is expected to make a full recovery.

The three Lady Lion seniors and their parents were recognized before the start of the William Jewell match with a half-dozen yellow roses and a gold MSSC insignia pin that was presented by women's athletic director, Sallie Beard.

The senior members are Heather Andrews, 4-year squad member; Valerie Butler, 4-year squad member; and Jaime Dill, a 3-year squad member.

Beard thinks this could be the beginning of a great future for the program. These girls Beard says are establishing a strong foundation that can be used for a spring-board.

"Her (Gebauer) enthusiasm and love for the sport has really caught fire with the girls and rejuvenated their attitude toward the sport," said Beard. "She kind of has an infectious attitude towards the sport and the girls have caught the

TURN TO TENNIS, PAGE 13

TRACK

Lions steadily improve

BY ROBBY BALL
STAFF WRITER

The Missouri Southern's men's and women's track and field teams traveled to Emporia State University last weekend to compete in the Division II Challenge. The event brought schools from five different conferences to Emporia, and allowed Southern's track teams to see how they fare against the rest of the nation.

"It really allows us to see what the competition will be like when nationals rolls around," said Tom Rutledge, head men's track and field coach. "We can see how our conference fares against the rest. I would say we have one of the toughest."

Dustin Franks has come on strong the last couple of weeks, with excellent practices and a strong fourth place finish last weekend.

"I really see Dustin starting to turn it on," Rutledge said. "He has had some superior work outs the last couple of weeks, and ran very well last weekend."

Stephen Kindell broke the 23-foot mark in the long jump, and placed fourth, as well as in the triple jump.

"Stephen knew he had to get 23-feet or better to start scoring consistently," Rutledge said. "He went over 40-feet in the triple jump and is really coming around. The best part is he is a freshman."

The Lions' sprinters have struggled so far in the outdoor season, but have much to look forward to due to their youth.

"The sprinters haven't come around as fast as I have needed them too," Rutledge said. "But they are a good bunch of guys and are working hard, that's all I can ask of them. They'll come around soon."

Senior sprinter Heather Hoyle won the 100 and 200-meter dash last weekend, and Tina Keller improved her provisional mark in the 400-meter hurdles, on her way to winning the event, and improved her mark by nearly two seconds.

"Heather has really started to come around," said Patty Vavra, head women's track and field coach. "She is real close to a provisional mark in the 100, and has been close in the 200 for awhile."

Senior distance runner Amanda

SOFTBALL



Sophomore outfielder Stephanie Bunger reaches home after a Truman State infielder attempts to tag her out at Lea Kungle Field on Sunday.



NOPPADOL PAOTHONG/The Chart
Kasey Martin successfully steals second base.

By ANDRE L. SMITH
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En route to a .500 record once again, Missouri Southern's softball team registered 3-0 and 9-2 with victories over Southwest Baptist University Tuesday afternoon.

It was the first time Southern (17-17) had just as many wins as losses since March 3, when the Lady Lions split with the Arkansas Lady Razorbacks. Now that the Lady Lions are "over the hump," head coach Pat Lipira said they can better focus on a conference championship.

"We dug ourselves a hole pretty early in the season," she said. "It's been a goal of mine to get back to the .500 mark, so it feels really

good. I have never felt like we couldn't win the MIAA."

Sophomore Britany Hargis shut out the Lady Bearcats while throwing a complete game. Hargis (4-3) had not started a game since March 27.

After jumping out to an early 2-0 lead, Hargis sat down 13 batters in a row. She struck out five batters in the shutout and lowered her ERA to 1.90.

"I was so nervous," Hargis said. "Before the game, everyone told me not to be nervous, but I felt like I was pitching 12-and-under."

In the nightcap, Southern got off to a quick start when Erin Turner was knocked in by Amber Shoemaker in the first inning.

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Townsend signs three to letter of intent

COMPILED FROM STAFF REPORTS

After a 6-20 season, Lady Lions head coach Amy Townsend signed three players that she thinks will make a big impact in the upcoming year.

Those signees are Stacey Brunnert of Carthage High School, Krystle Jones of Raytown High School, and Lacey Messick of Marshfield High School.

Brunnert, a 5-8 guard, averaged 14 points, six rebounds, four assists, and four steals as a senior for the Lady Tigers. She was a first team all-conference pick and earned team's Best Defensive Player honors as well.

Jones, a 5-5 guard led her team to a 23-6 record, not to mention a conference, district, and sectional championship. She averaged 10.1 points, 4.3 rebounds, three steals, and 2.1 assists per game as a senior. She earned sec-

ond team all-conference and all-district honors.

Messick, a 5-9 small forward, averaged 12 points, five rebounds, 4.2 assists, and 3.5 steals for the Lady Jays of Marshfield last year.

She helped them to three Class 3A State titles and in her four-year stint had a 112-17 record.

"We are very excited about with these three signees, and we're looking forward to getting things started next season," Townsend said. □

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